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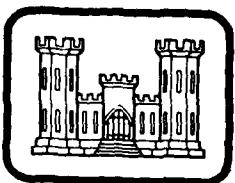
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ANALYSIS OF AN ASSEMBLAGE OF DISCS EMPLOYING INTERACTIVE GRAPHICS

by

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20. ABSTRACT (Continued).

material properties apply throughout the system. The types of particles that can be accommodated by DISC consist of discs and bar-shaped elements. These particles are permitted to react with one another by touching, rolling, bouncing or sliding. Problems requiring a quasi-static solution or problems involving large velocities and displacement can be analyzed.

In addition to extending the distinct element method to disc-shaped particles, extensive use was made of interactive graphics. Through interactive graphics, the user of the program is relieved of the usual difficulties involved in data preparation and the plotting of results. The mode of operation of the computer program is visual; i.e., pictures (or plots) of the system of disc-shaped elements are drawn on a cathode ray terminal. The program operates in a time-sharing environment.

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PREFACE

This study was authorized as part of the In-House Laboratory Independent Research (ILIR) Program for FY 78 and FY 79 and was performed under Project 4A161101A91D, Task 02, Work Unit 120, sponsored by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (R&D). The investigation was conducted during the period December 1977 to September 1980 at the U. S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station (WES).

The study was conceived and conducted by Mr. J. B. Palmerton, Research Civil Engineer, Engineering Geology and Rock Mechanics Division (EGRMD), Geotechnical Laboratory (GL), under the general supervision of Dr. D. C. Banks, Chief, EGRMD, Mr. J. P. Sale, former Chief, GL, and Dr. P. F. Hadala, Assistant Chief, GL. This report was prepared by Mr. Palmerton.

Commanders and Directors of the WES during the conduct of this study were COL John L. Cannon, CE, and COL Nelson P. Conover, CE. Technical Director was Mr. Fred R. Brown.

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ANALYSIS OF AN ASSEMBLAGE OF DISCS
EMPLOYING INTERACTIVE GRAPHICS

PART I: INTRODUCTION

Background

1. A computer modeling technique termed the "distinct" element method was introduced by Cundall (1971). Then, several years later, the technique was extended to analyze blocky rock systems (Cundall, 1974). This type of analysis permitted large-scale motions of the individual rock blocks. This work was further extended to the analysis of tunnel supports (Voegeli, 1979). Thus, the distinct element method has been developed to accurately model many features of the behavior of jointed rock.

Purpose

2. This study was directed at developing methods for analyzing the behavior of systems of simple, particulate members. The basic shape of the particulate members was chosen to be a disc (or cylinder). The distinct element method is oriented more toward representing the kinematics of a system of particulate members instead of the continuum aspects. At the outset, the structure is viewed as a collection of individual members with individual properties, rather than a homogeneous system for which the material property effects are assumed to apply throughout.

3. In addition to extending the distinct element method to discs, there was a desire to use computer interactive graphics in the analysis so that the user could be relieved of laborious data preparation and time-consuming plotting of the results. This report describes the development of a computer program entitled DISC and contains discussions of the mathematical formulations, program organization, and program operation.

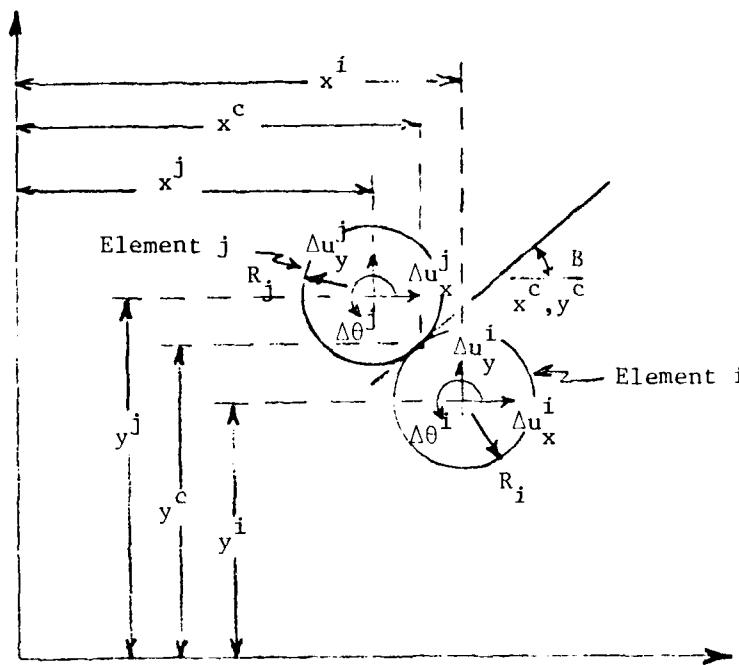
PART II: MATHEMATICAL CONCEPTS

4. The computer program DISC was formulated using concepts of the "distinct element" method proposed by Cundall (1974). Conceptually, the distinct element method computes the forces and displacements at points of contact between mathematically described particles (elements). The contact between the elements are mathematically represented by springs and dashpots. Any relative displacement between two elements in contact then results in a force developing within the springs and dashpots. The vector sum of all such forces on the discs in turn causes accelerations of the discs. If these accelerations are assumed to be constant for a prescribed interval of time, the associated velocities and displacements may be computed for the end of that time interval. These new displacements may then be used to determine new relative displacements between the contacting elements, and the cycle is then repeated over and over.

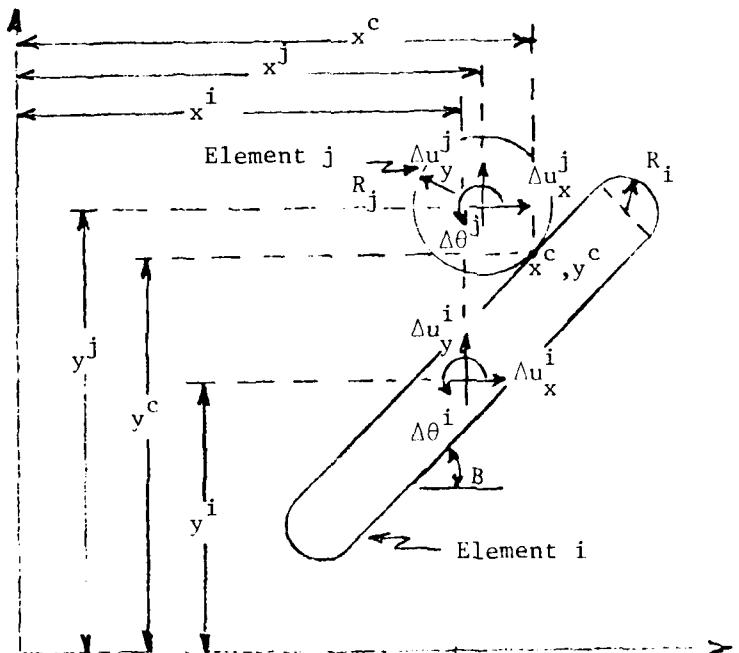
5. The computer program DISC is capable of handling element shapes corresponding to discs and bars. The bar elements are composed of two parallel sides of arbitrary length terminated on both ends by semicircles. Figure 1 shows two examples of two elements in contact. Condition a presents two disc elements in contact, and condition b a bar and a disc element in contact. Mathematically, the equations required to describe the subsequent motions of either contact pair are identical. However, condition b is somewhat more general and easier to visualize and as such will be referred to in the following discussion.

6. Figure 1b shows the bar element i , its centroid located at x^i, y^i , and the disc element j , its centroid located at x^j, y^j . The coordinates of the contact point are at x^c, y^c . The angle to the contact plane is denoted by B . (For the conditions shown in Figure 1a, B is the angle of the plane of tangency.)

7. The basic key equation of the distinct element method relates the incremental displacement of the contact point (into one of the two contacting bodies) to the relative motion of the elements that are in contact. The following equation is the result of superposition, i.e.,



a.



b.

Figure 1. Basic elements and definitions

first assume element i is fixed and determine the resulting motion of the contact, and then assume element j is fixed and examine the motion of the contact point. This analysis yields (as illustrated in Figure 2a)

$$\Delta u_y^c = \Delta u_y^j - \Delta u_y^i + \Delta \theta^j(x^c - x^j) - \Delta \theta^i(x^c - x^i) \quad (1)$$

and

$$\Delta u_x^c = \Delta u_x^j - \Delta u_x^i - \Delta \theta^j(y^c - y^j) + \Delta \theta^i(y^c - y^i)$$

where

Δu_y^c = the vertical component of the incremental contact displacement

Δu_x^c = the horizontal component of the incremental contact displacement

Δu_y^i = the current vertical incremental displacement of element i , etc. (i.e., the subscript (x or y) refers to the component direction and the superscript (i or j) refers to the element)

x^i, y^i = the centroid coordinates of element i

x^j, y^j = the centroid coordinates of element j

x^c = the horizontal coordinate of the contact point

y^c = the vertical coordinate of the contact point

$\Delta \theta$ = the incremental rotation of the element

8. The global angle of the contact plane is given by B . Thus, the horizontal and vertical relative contact displacements may be resolved into components parallel and perpendicular (shear and normal directions) to the contact plane. Thus, as shown in Figure 2b

$$\Delta u_s^c = \Delta u_y^c \sin B + \Delta u_x^c \cos B \quad (2)$$

and

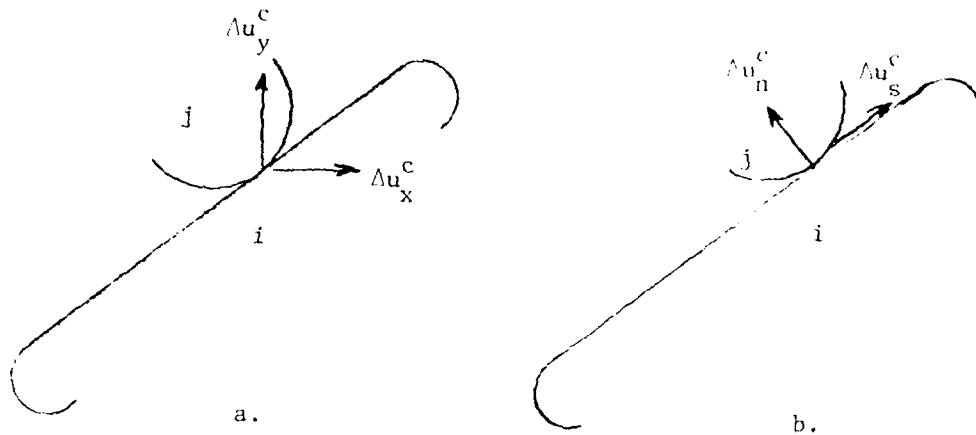
$$\Delta u_n^c = \Delta u_y^c \cos B - \Delta u_x^c \sin B$$

where

Δu_s^c = the component of the contact point displacement parallel to the contact plane

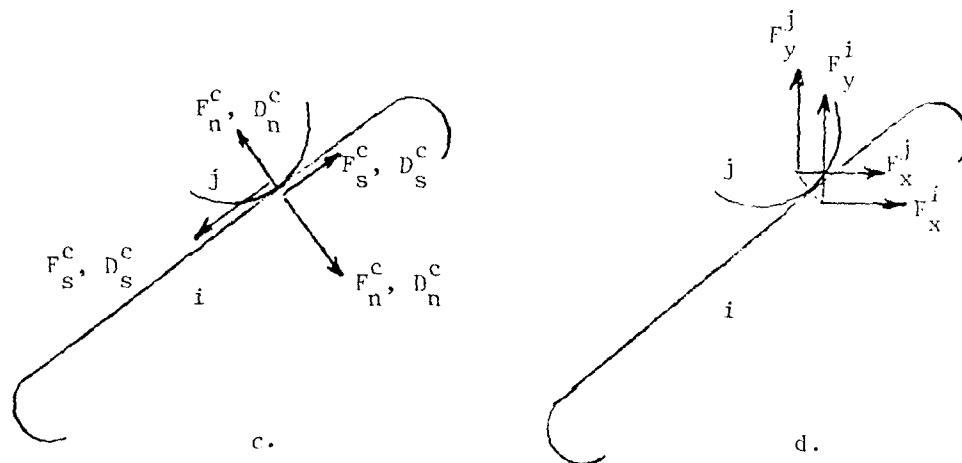
Δu_n^c = the normal component

9. As previously mentioned, the contacts are represented by springs and dashpots (in both the normal and shear directions). Thus,



$$\begin{aligned} \Delta u_y^c &= \Delta u_y^i - \Delta u_y^i + \Delta \theta^j (x^c - x^i) \\ &\quad - \Delta \theta^i (x^c - x^i) \\ \Delta u_x^c &= \Delta u_x^j - \Delta u_x^i - \Delta \theta^j (y^c - y^i) \\ &\quad + \Delta \theta^i (y^c - y^i), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta u_s^c &= \Delta u_y^c \sin B + \Delta u_x^c \cos B \\ \Delta u_n^c &= \Delta u_y^c \cos B - \Delta u_x^c \sin B \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} F_n^c &\doteq F_n^c - \Delta u_n^c k_n \\ F_s^c &\doteq F_s^c + \Delta u_s^c k_s \\ D_n^c &= - \Delta u_n^c K_n \\ D_s^c &= \Delta u_s^c K_s \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_y^i &= (F_s^c + D_s^c) \sin B - (F_n^c + D_n^c) \cos B \\ F_x^i &= (F_s^c + D_s^c) \cos B + (F_n^c + D_n^c) \sin B \\ F_y^i &= - F_y^j \\ F_x^i &= - F_x^j \end{aligned}$$

Figure 2. Contact displacements and forces

the force generated within the springs and dashpots because of the incremental normal and shear displacements is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_n^c &\doteq F_n^c - \Delta u_n^c k_n \\
 F_s^c &\doteq F_s^c + \Delta u_s^c k_s \\
 D_n^c &= -\Delta u_n^c K_n \\
 D_s^c &= \Delta u_s^c K_s
 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

where

- F_n^c = the normal spring force
- F_s^c = the shear spring force
- D_n^c = the normal dashpot force
- D_s^c = the shear dashpot force
- k_n = the normal stiffness
- k_s = the shear stiffness
- K_n = the normal damping constant
- K_s = the shear damping constant

The symbol \doteq means "replaced by"; that is, after each increment of contact point displacement, new normal and shear forces are recomputed as functions of the old values. The dashpots are necessary to prevent the two contact elements from vibrating indefinitely. To be strictly correct, the dashpot forces should be related to the contact point velocity; however, for a time increment, the incremental displacement is proportional to the velocity (i.e., $\Delta u = v\Delta t$, where v is the relative velocity across the contact). Figure 2c shows the positive directions of the normal and shear forces. Also, note that a positive normal force indicates a compressive force.

10. Equation 3 is subject to modification if the tensile "strength" T (a negative value) is exceeded. Thus, it follows that if

$$\frac{F^c}{n} < T$$

then

$$F_n^c = F_s^c = D_n^c = D_s^c = 0$$

If F_n^c is less than T (which is normally set to zero), all forces at the contact are set to zero, i.e., the elements are tending to separate. In addition, if the coefficient of friction is given as μ , the equations are modified as follows:

If

$$\left| \frac{F_s^c}{F_n^c} \right| > \mu$$

then

$$F_s^c = \mu F_n^c \quad \left| \frac{F_s^c}{F_n^c} \right| / \mu$$

$$D_s^c = 0$$

Thus, the two elements will slide whenever the shear force exceeds the product of the coefficient of friction and the normal force, and the resulting shear force is maintained at the shear "strength."

11. Now that the contact shear and normal forces have been computed, all that remains is to resolve these forces back into the component directions. The result is

$$\begin{aligned} F_y^j &= (F_s^c + D_s^c) \sin B - (F_n^c + D_n^c) \cos B \\ F_x^j &= (F_s^c + D_s^c) \cos B + (F_n^c + D_n^c) \sin B \\ F_y^i &= -F_y^j \\ F_x^i &= -F_x^j \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

where F_y^j is the vertical component of the contact force on element j , etc. Figure 2d shows the positive directions of the component forces. Obviously, the forces on element i are numerically equal but opposite to those on element j . Up to this point, only a single pair of contacting elements has been considered. In actuality, any element, say

element i , may possess a number of contacts. In addition, element i may be subject to applied forces and gravity forces. Thus, the total force acting on element i is given by

$$F_{ysum}^i = \sum_c F_y^i + \text{vertical applied load} - \text{gravity load}$$

$$F_{xsum}^i = \sum_c F_x^i + \text{horizontal applied load} \quad (5)$$

$$M_{sum}^i = \sum_c [F_y^i(x^c - x^i) - F_x^i(y^c - y^i)] + \text{applied moment}$$

The symbol \sum_c means the summation for all contact points of element i . The equations are similar for element j . The term M_{sum}^i is the total moment acting on element i . Figure 3 illustrates the force sums.

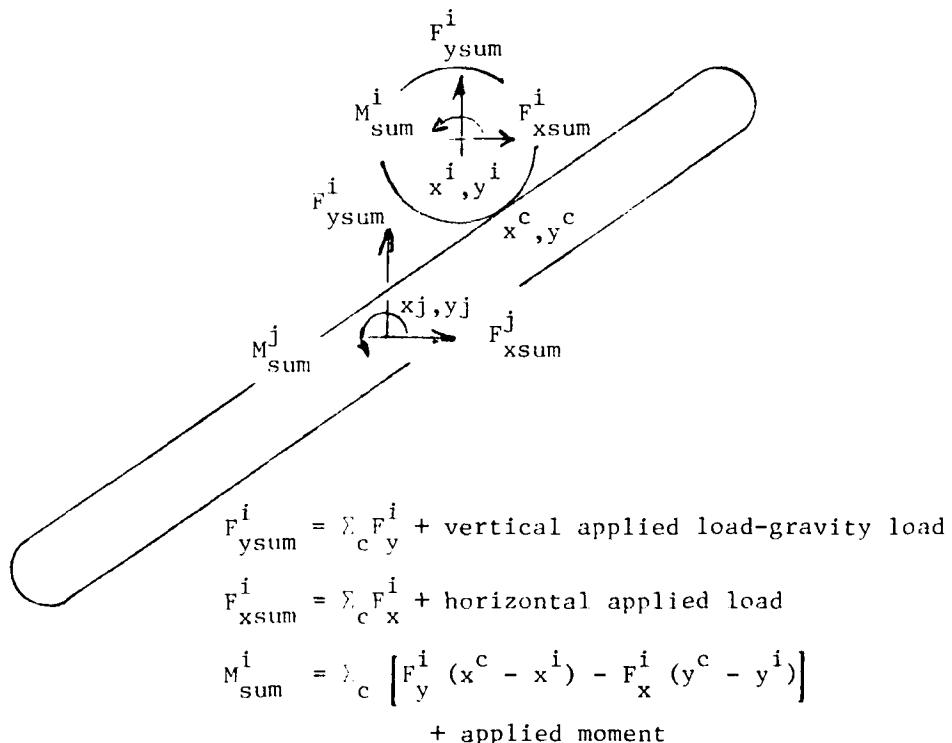


Figure 3. Force sums on element i

12. After computing all the force sums acting on each element, the acceleration of each element may be computed from Newton's law of motion, i.e., acceleration = unbalanced force/mass, and angular acceleration = unbalanced moment/moment of inertia. Thus, the component accelerations a_x^i and angular acceleration α^i are expressed as

$$a_x^i = F_{x\text{sum}}^i / m^i$$

$$a_y^i = F_{y\text{sum}}^i / m^i \quad (6)$$

$$\alpha^i = M_{\text{sum}}^i / I^i$$

where

$$m^i = \text{the mass of element } i$$

$$I^i = \text{the mass moment of inertia of element } i$$

The velocities (ω is the angular velocity) are then computed by multiplying by the time step Δt :

$$v_x^i = v_x^i + a_x^i \Delta t$$

$$v_y^i = v_y^i + a_y^i \Delta t \quad (7)$$

$$\omega^i = \omega^i + \alpha^i \Delta t$$

A second numerical integration yields the incremental displacement for the element to be

$$\Delta u_x^i = v_x^i \Delta t$$

$$\Delta u_y^i = v_y^i \Delta t \quad (8)$$

$$\Delta \theta^i = \omega^i \Delta t$$

The quantities above are sought in order to recycle the calculations. These quantities are introduced back into Equation 1, and the whole process is repeated.

13. Finally, the total displacement of the element centroids are found from

$$u_x^i = u_x^i + \Delta u_x^i$$

$$u_y^i = u_y^i + \Delta u_y^i \quad (9)$$

$$\theta^i = \theta^i + \Delta \theta^i$$

14. At the outset of each problem, the incremental displacements are, of course, zero. Thus, Equations 1 through 4 yield nothing, i.e., there are, up to now, no contact forces. In Equation 5, a force sum will result due to applied and/or gravity forces. Thus, an acceleration of an element will occur that in turn can yield incremental displacements. Equations 1 through 4 are then used to compute the new contact forces.

15. As noted from the discussion above, the mathematics involved in program DISC are quite simple, since only the concepts of a damped oscillator and Newton's law of motion are needed. The real difficulty in performing this type of analysis is the development of the logic to detect and to provide computer memory for the many contacts that may result. Thus, the problem becomes one of geometry and bookkeeping. The details of the program are presented in Part III.

PART III: PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

General Overview

16. The computer program DISC is a time-sharing FORTRAN program that consists of a main program and sixteen subroutines. Physically, DISC is composed of approximately 1200 FORTRAN statements. The program is written to use interactive graphics and is operated by a Tektronix 4014 (or 4010) terminal. With the exception of occasionally typing in a few numbers to redefine certain parameters, the commands primarily consist of single keystrokes. The output is primarily graphical, i.e., pictures of the present locations of the elements are drawn on the screen. While it is possible to obtain printed information, the normal mode of operation is visual.

17. As discussed in Part II, the actual calculations for determining the motion of the disc and bar elements are quite straightforward. Knowing the location of a contact point and the previous relative displacements of those elements in contact, the forces between the elements can be computed and then integrated over time to obtain new displacements necessary for the next cycle. This process is carried out for all contacts at each time cycle.

18. Suppose though, that a system of 100 disc elements, packed closely together, is to be considered. If the discs are of the same size, then there could, at most, be six contacts per disc; and since some must be on or near the edge, the total number of contact points must be less than 600. However, in order to check for contacts between the two arbitrary discs, it would (by brute force) be necessary to check for the possibility of a contact between each and every disc. Furthermore, an inordinate amount of searching would be required. If $n = 100$ discs, the number of different possible combinations C is given by

$$C = \frac{n!}{2(n-2)!} = \frac{100!}{2(98!)} = 4950 \quad (14)$$

For 500 discs, the number of searches would increase to 124,750. In addition, computer memory space would be required at double the amounts above to store the normal and shear contact forces.

19. Since most of this memory would be blank and most of the searches fruitless (where contacts were not found), a great deal of effort was put into formulating schemes and methods to facilitate the program's efficiency. Indeed, the usability of the distinct element method is predicated on efficient programming techniques. Without incorporating these schemes it would not be possible to solve even small problems on large computers.

20. The various subroutines that make up the program DISC are related to each other primarily through named common storage. The items in common storage are as follows:

N = Number of disc and bar elements
SKN = Spring stiffness at contact
DKN = Damping constant of contacts
TIME = Time since beginning of run
DT = Time increment between steps
DF = Damping factor (a multiplier for the damping constant)
FXSUM(M) = Sum of forces in x-direction on element M
FYSUM(M) = Sum of forces in y-direction on element M
FMSUM(M) = Sum of moments acting on element M
FX(M) = Applied x-force on element M
FY(M) = Applied y-force on element M
FM(M) = Applied moment on element M
X(M) = Current x-coordinate of element M
Y(M) = Current y-coordinate of element M
T(M) = Current angular rotation of element M
R(M) = Radius (or thickness, if bar element) of element M
S(M) = One half of the separation between the circular ends of bar element M
W(M) = Weight of element M
XM(M) = Mass of element M
UX(M) = Current x-displacement of element M

UY(M) = Current y-displacement of element M
UT(M) = Current angular displacement of element M
VX(M) = Current x-velocity of element M
VY(M) = Current y-velocity of element M
IFIX(M) = Fixity code for element M. The values are:
 1 = Fixed in x-direction
 2 = Fixed in y-direction
 3 = Fixed in x- and y-direction
 4 = Fixed in angular direction
 5 = Fixed in x and angular directions
 6 = Fixed in y and angular directions
 7 = Fixed in all directions
 8 = A constant prescribed velocity applies
WGTF(M) = Weight factor (a multiplier for the initially assigned weights)
FRC(M) = Angle corresponding to coefficient of friction,
 i.e. $\tan(FRC) = \mu$
TEN(M) = Tensile strength at contact for element M
AA(M x 24) = AA is the contact list. See discussion of subroutine MOTION
NA(M) = Index used to find sought quantities in the contact list
LL (M x 6) = Possible contact search list. See discussion of subroutine PLIST

The common storage requires approximately 53 N storage locations.

Main Program

21. The main program initiates the graphics software and calls subroutine GIDYUP. Control is never returned to the main program. The graphics subroutines (West Point Military Academy, 1975) are peculiar to the WES computing system and also the Office of Personnel Management's Honeywell system at Macon, Georgia. The graphics subroutines employed in DISC include:

USTART	UBELL	UCRCLE
USET	UERASE	UPEN
UWAIT	UPRINT	UMOVE
UREAD	UPRNTR	UPSET
UGRIN	UARC	UDAREA
UWINDO	UROTADE	UOUTLN

Subroutine GIDYUP

22. Subroutine GIDYUP is the driving subroutine. Its primary function is to call subroutine INPUT and to cause cycling through subroutine OUTPUT. This subroutine is the only one that calls the main calculation subroutine MOTION. The normal sequence of operations involves:

- a. GIDYUP calls INPUT. The user interactively describes the problem. Alternatively, the user may select a problem previously stored by subroutine SAVE.
- b. A call is made to PLIST, which prepares a list of those elements for which a contact is possible within the next 50 cycles.
- c. A call is made to MOTION, which calculates the movements of and forces on the elements. Fifty cycles are performed in MOTION. At the end of each 50 cycles, the new positions of the elements are graphically plotted by OUTPUT. Step b is again performed.
- d. Every so often (user selected, default value = 250 cycles) a call is made to OUTPUT. The program operation is halted, and the user must inform the system what action is to be taken next (i.e., continue running, draw all elements, change parameters, etc.).

Subroutine INPUT

23. Subroutine INPUT is used to describe the problem to be analyzed (see user's guides (Figures 9 and 10)) and also to initialize common data storage dependent upon its calling subroutine. It may be called by GIDYUP (to start a new problem) or by OUTPUT (to modify an existing problem). The following subroutines may be called by INPUT:

SCREEN	CIRCLE
GIDYUP	LOOP
GRID	GEN
SAVE	

Subroutine OUTPUT

24. A variety of functions can be performed by subroutine OUTPUT (see user's guides (Figures 9 and 10)). After the problem geometry is described in INPUT, subroutine OUTPUT takes over the system operation. Its function is to set boundary conditions (fix certain elements), to allow for inputting parameters (weights, damping factors, frictional properties, etc.), and to handle both graphical and formatted output. Between the phases when calculations of motion are being performed between GIDYUP and MOTION, the program halts occasionally (user defined, default value = 250 cycles) in OUTPUT. During this halt, the user may redefine boundary conditions, parameters, etc., plot the data, or request another calculation phase.

25. During any program halt, the user may also instruct the program to store a copy of the existing data geometry (performed by subroutine SAVE). This stored data may then be recalled by a direct call to INPUT. Subroutine OUTPUT is also used to delete (erase) certain elements; however, elements may not be added in OUTPUT. At the outset of a problem, a great deal of geometrical editing may be accomplished by juggling the program back and forth between OUTPUT and INPUT. Consequently, the user is able to reposition elements, add elements, delete elements, change boundary conditions, etc.

26. The data storage (SAVE) feature is very handy for situations in which it is desired to solve a suite of problems with the same geometry but different parameters. After one problem is solved, the stored data may be recalled, the parameters changed, and the next problem solved.

27. Subroutine OUTPUT may be called only by subroutine GIDYUP. The following subroutines may be called by OUTPUT.

GIDYUP	CIRCLE	DAMP
INPUI	VECTOR	PLTFOR
LOOP	WEIGHT	GRID
SCREEN	INTERVAL	SAVE

28. Subroutine OUTPUT is also used to compute the contact stiffness k and time-step increment Δt . (Subroutine INPUT tentatively sets k and Δt in the same fashion as OUTPUT. However, OUTPUT redefines a stable time step dependent upon the boundary conditions.)

29. The equation of motion for an undamped linear oscillator of stiffness k and mass m is given by

$$m \frac{d^2 u}{dt^2} + ku = 0$$

where u is the displacement. In a finite difference notation, the derivative $d^2 u / dt^2$ may be expressed as

$$\frac{d^2 u}{dt^2} = \frac{u_{t+1} - 2u_t + u_{t-1}}{\Delta t^2}$$

where u_{t+1} , u_t , and u_{t-1} represent the displacements at times $t+1$, t , and $t-1$, respectively. Substitution into the equation of motion results in

$$u_{t+1} + \left(\frac{k}{m} \Delta t^2 - 2 \right) u_t + u_{t-1} = 0$$

The equality of the finite difference equation above can hold only if the quantity $\left(\frac{k}{m} \Delta t^2 - 2 \right)$ is negative. Thus, the stable time step Δt is given by

$$\Delta t \leq \sqrt{\frac{2m}{k}} \quad (11)$$

Greater values for Δt will lead to exponentially increasing u .

30. It can be shown that the formulation for DISC (when considering a single normal contact) yields the same finite difference equation given above. That is, given (for some time step t) the values of u_t , Δu_t , v_t , and F_t in the normal directions, Equation 3 becomes

$$F_{t+1} = F_t - k \Delta u_t = \sum_{t=0}^t k \Delta u_t = -ku_t$$

Equations 6 and 7 may be expressed as

$$v_{t+1} = v_t + \frac{F_{t+1}\Delta t}{m} = v_t - \frac{ku\Delta t}{m}$$

From Equation 8 and by substitution of the preceding equation

$$\Delta u_{t+1} = v_{t+1}\Delta t = v_t\Delta t - \frac{ku\Delta t^2}{m}$$

Then, making the substitution

$$v_t\Delta t = \Delta u_t = u_t - u_{t-1}$$

results in

$$\Delta u_{t+1} = u_t - u_{t-1} - \frac{ku\Delta t^2}{m}$$

Finally, Equation 9 may be written as

$$\begin{aligned} u_{t+1} &= u_t + (\Delta u_{t+1}) \\ &= u_t + (u_t - u_{t-1} - \frac{ku\Delta t^2}{m}) \\ &= - \left(\frac{k}{m} \Delta t^2 + 2 \right) u_t + u_{t-1} \end{aligned}$$

Or by rearranging terms

$$u_{t+1} + \left(\frac{k}{m} \Delta t^2 + 2 \right) u_t - u_{t-1} = 0$$

The displacement at time $t+1$ can be computed if the two previous displacements at times t and $t-1$ are known.

31. The procedure outlined for the computations of a stable time step Δt considered only one contact. In actuality, many contacts can be made for a single element; thus, the useful time step must be chosen smaller than the single contact time step. That is, most problems consist of many degrees of freedom.

32. Thus, a stable Δt will increase as the mass increases and will decrease as the stiffness increases. The program will, of course, calculate faster (i.e., the cost will go down) as the time step increases. Alternatively, if a Δt is chosen, then a stable k could be chosen for a given m . In general, any two of Δt , k , and m can be chosen, and the other computed to ensure stability through the preceding equation. The scheme incorporated into program DISC for computing a stable Δt is described in the following paragraphs. Any subsequent user of DISC should not necessarily feel bound to this scheme.

33. At the outset of writing DISC, it was decided that a disc element with a radius of 20 screen units would be the "standard" disc element. The Tektronix screen is 1023 screen units wide and 780 screen units high. For this standard element, a weight of 100.0 units is assigned. To determine the weight of other disc and bar elements, the area of the element is computed, divided by the standard area, and multiplied by 100.0. Thus, all forces output by the program are in terms of the 100.0 units assigned to the standard disc, i.e., the forces are normalized and, as such, are nondimensional. The element mass m_e is determined from

$$m_e = w_e / g \quad (12)$$

where

w_e = the normalized weight of the element

g = the acceleration due to gravity

The value g is an input parameter (default value = 32.2). Thus, if the default value of 32.2 is used, it implies an acceleration due to gravity of 32.2 screen units/unit of time/unit of time. If time is reckoned in seconds, this would normally suggest that one screen unit equals one foot (i.e., $g = 32.2 \text{ ft/sec}^2$). Inputting g as 9.8 (with time reckoned in seconds) suggests that one screen unit equals one metre (i.e., $g = 9.8 \text{ m/sec}^2$). It is through this input parameter g , that a scale can be assigned to the problem.

34. The contact spring stiffness k (currently set equal in normal and shear directions) can be assigned in a variety of ways. If the stiffness were physically known, it could be directly assigned. In most quasi-static problems, however, the purpose of the spring stiffness is to prevent the elements from penetrating too far into each other. This requirement implies choosing a very large k ; however, choosing a large k results in a small Δt . For program DISC, the following equation is used for selecting k :

$$k = w_{\max} \sqrt{N + 1} \quad (13)$$

where

N = the number of elements in the system

w_{\max} = the weight of the largest element (actually the weight of the largest element not restrained from all movement or "fixed")

35. The time step Δt is then computed as

$$\Delta t = 0.05 \sqrt{m_{\min}/k} \quad (14)$$

where m_{\min} is the mass of the smallest element not restrained from all movement. The factor 0.05 is used to ensure stability since more than one contact per element is possible. In addition, subroutine OUTPUT computes element areas and moments of inertia and initializes many data lists.

Subroutine PLIST

36. Subroutine PLIST is used to prepare a data list of possible contacts (between elements). This subroutine is accessed before each call to MOTION (i.e., every 50 cycles). Suppose the situation as shown in Figure 4 exists. To determine which elements would go into the possible contact list, a check is first made on the distance d_{ij} between each element, i.e.,

$$d_{ij} = \sqrt{(x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2} \quad (15)$$

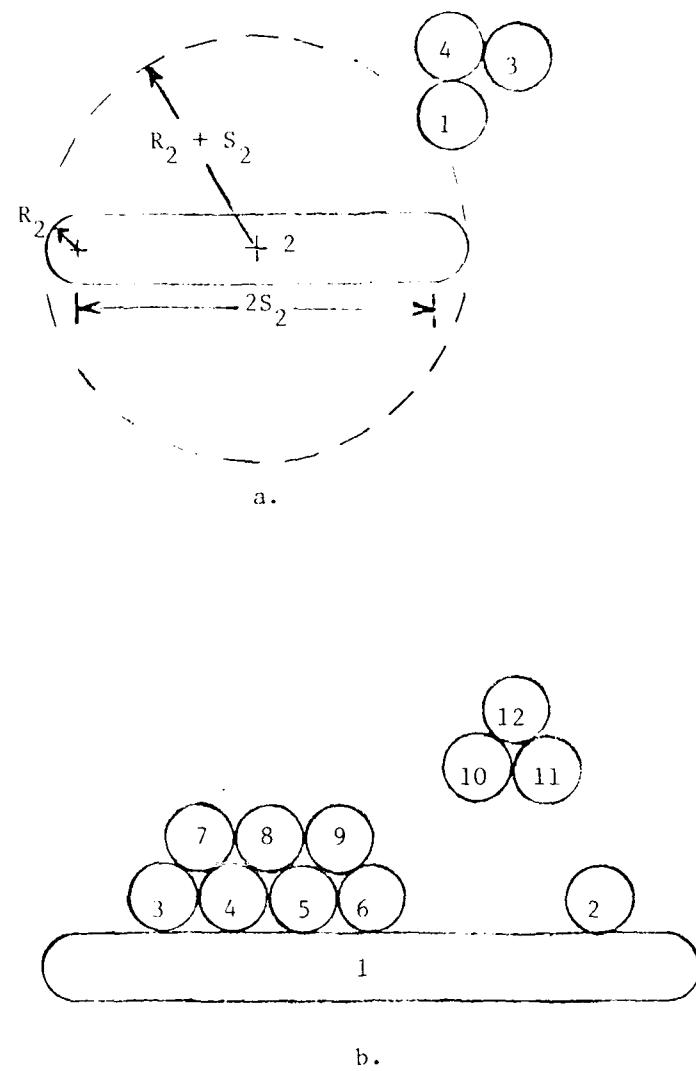


Figure 4. Formation of possible contact list

where x_i , x_j , y_i , y_j are the coordinates of the element centroids. This distance is compared to the combined element thickness RNG_{ij} . The combined element thickness is the sum of the radii (plus lengths, if bar elements) of elements i and j , i.e.,

$$RNG_{ij} = R_i + R_j + S_i + S_j + 1 \text{ screen unit} \quad (16)$$

for a disc element $S_i = 0$.

One screen unit is added to RNG_{ij} so that elements that are quite close to contacting will be included in the possible contact list.

37. If $d_{ij} < RNG_{ij}$, then this contact pair is put in the possible contact list. If $d_{ij} > RNG_{ij} + 100$ screen units, the possibility of contact is rejected. If $RNG_{ij} < d_{ij} < (RNG_{ij} + 100)$, one further test is required to accept or reject the contact pair. Since a call to PLIST is made only every 50 cycles, it is possible that moving elements could make contact during the cycling interval. The velocity of each element (for the last computation cycle) is known at each call to PLIST. This velocity is used to compute an extrapolated position for the element at the end of the next 50 cycles. The original distance between elements is denoted by d_{ij} . The extrapolated positions of elements i and j moving at velocities v_x^i , v_y^i and v_x^j , v_y^j are given by

$$\begin{aligned} x_i^e &= x_i + 50\Delta t v_x^i \\ y_i^e &= y_i + 50\Delta t v_y^i \\ x_j^e &= x_j + 50\Delta t v_x^j \\ y_j^e &= y_j + 50\Delta t v_y^j \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

where x_j^e , y_i^e , etc., are the extrapolated element centroid coordinates after 50 time steps. By substituting

$$v_x = 50\Delta t(v_x^i - v_x^j) \quad (18)$$

$$v_j = 50\Delta t(v_y^i - v_y^j)$$

the new, extrapolated distance d_{ij}^e between element centroids becomes

$$d_{ij}^e = \sqrt{(x_i^e - x_j^e)^2 + (y_i^e - y_j^e)^2} \quad (19)$$

$$= \sqrt{(x_i - x_j + v_x)^2 + (y_i - y_j + v_y)^2}$$

Now, if $d_{ij} < d_{ij}^e$ (i.e., the original distance apart is less than the extrapolated distance apart), then the element pair is moving apart and the contact is not possible. However, if $d_{ij} > d_{ij}^e$, the element pair is closing and this pair is entered into the possible contact list provided that $d_{ij}^e \leq RNG_{ij}$.

38. At first sight, it would appear that the last test is all that is necessary to accept or reject the contact candidate. In fact, it is; however, to speed up computations, it is more efficient to check for possible contacts in the order described. As soon as a contact candidate is accepted or rejected, additional computations (involving the velocities) are no longer necessary. The idea is to accept or reject with as few computations as possible. It must be mentioned that PLIST forms only a possible contact list. This list is used in subroutine MOTION, where a closer examination is made to determine if contact is actually made. For example, as shown in Figure 4a, the bar element 2 obviously does not make contact with disc element 1. However, it will be included in the possible contact list. Also, elements 1 and 3 may, if they are moving together rapidly enough, be put in the possible contact list, but they may or may not physically come into contact during the next 50 cycles.

39. Searching for possible contacts is done in the following manner. Starting with element $i = 1$ and continuing incrementally to $i = n$ (the total number of elements), distance checks are made with all elements j with j ranging from $i + 1$ to n . Whenever a possible

contact with element i is found, the value j (the number of the element contacting i) is imbedded in the contact list. After all possible contacts with element i have been found, the value i is imbedded in the list to signal the end of all contacts with element i . For example, if it is assumed that elements 1 and 3, shown in Figure 4a, cannot make contact during the next 50 cycles, the possible contact list will be

$$2 - \underline{4} - 1 - 2 - 4 - 3 - 4$$

Thus, element 1 makes possible contacts with 2 and 4, element 2 makes no new contacts (the 1-2 contact has already been found), element 3 makes contact with 4, and of course, element 4 could not possibly make any as yet undetected contacts. The underlined numbers, 1, 2, 3, and 4, are the ascending values of i and signify the end of each segment of the list. Now, if it is assumed that elements 1 and 3 could make contact, the list would be

$$2 - 3 - 4 - 1 - 2 - 4 - 3 - 4$$

For illustrative purposes, consider the arrangement of elements shown in Figure 4b. The possible contact list for the system would be

$$\begin{aligned} &2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 1 - \underline{2} - 4 - 7 - \underline{3} - 5 - 7 - 8 - \underline{4} - \\ &6 - 8 - 9 - 5 - 9 - 6 - 8 - 7 - 9 - 8 - 9 - 11 - 12 - \underline{10} - \\ &12 - \underline{11} - 12 \end{aligned}$$

or a total of 19 contacts. Notice that the numbering is always forward. There is no reason to search backwards as those contacts will already have been found. The list segments are, in general, longer for the lower numbered elements. Within subroutine PLIST, the possible contact list is entitled LL (MLIST). The reserved length of LL is six times the number of elements, which should be adequate for most problems since this length will handle an average of six contacts per element. There is the possibility that the memory reserved could be exceeded if a large number of bar elements are present in the problem to be analyzed. Subroutine PLIST is called only by GIDYUP. No other subroutines are called by PLIST.

Subroutine MOTION

40. Subroutine MOTION performs three basic functions: (a) it detects element contacts, (b) it computes the forces acting on each element, and (c) it computes the subsequent displacement of the element due to those forces. Each entry to MOTION results in 50 time step iterations. Almost all of the processor time used during the operation of DISC is used in this subroutine.

41. Figure 5 is the flowchart for subroutine MOTION. As previously mentioned in the discussion of subroutine PLIST, a data list of possible contacts is created by PLIST before each call to MOTION. This list contains the elements that are presently touching or could be close enough to touch during the next 50 time cycles (i.e., the duration for each call to MOTION). While within MOTION, only those contact pairs contained in the possible contact list are considered as potential real contacts. It is not difficult to visualize that this list will be quite small compared to a list unrestricted by distance considerations. Indeed it is likely (at least for disc elements) that the possible contact list is a close approximation to the actual contacts.

Conditions for contacts

42. Figure 6 shows the various conditions for contacts between disc and bar elements. When describing element contacts, the convention is to state that element i contacts element j , where j is always greater than i . Searches for contacts are always forward, i.e., the lower numbered element is said to contact the higher numbered element, and never vice versa.

43. In general, four situations must be considered to detect real element contacts from the possible contact candidates i and j provided by PLIST.

- a. Both elements i and j are disc elements (Figure 6a); only one contact can result.
- b. Element i is a bar element and j is a disc element (Figure 6b); only one contact can result.
- c. Element j is a bar element and i is a disc element (Figure 6c); only one contact can result.

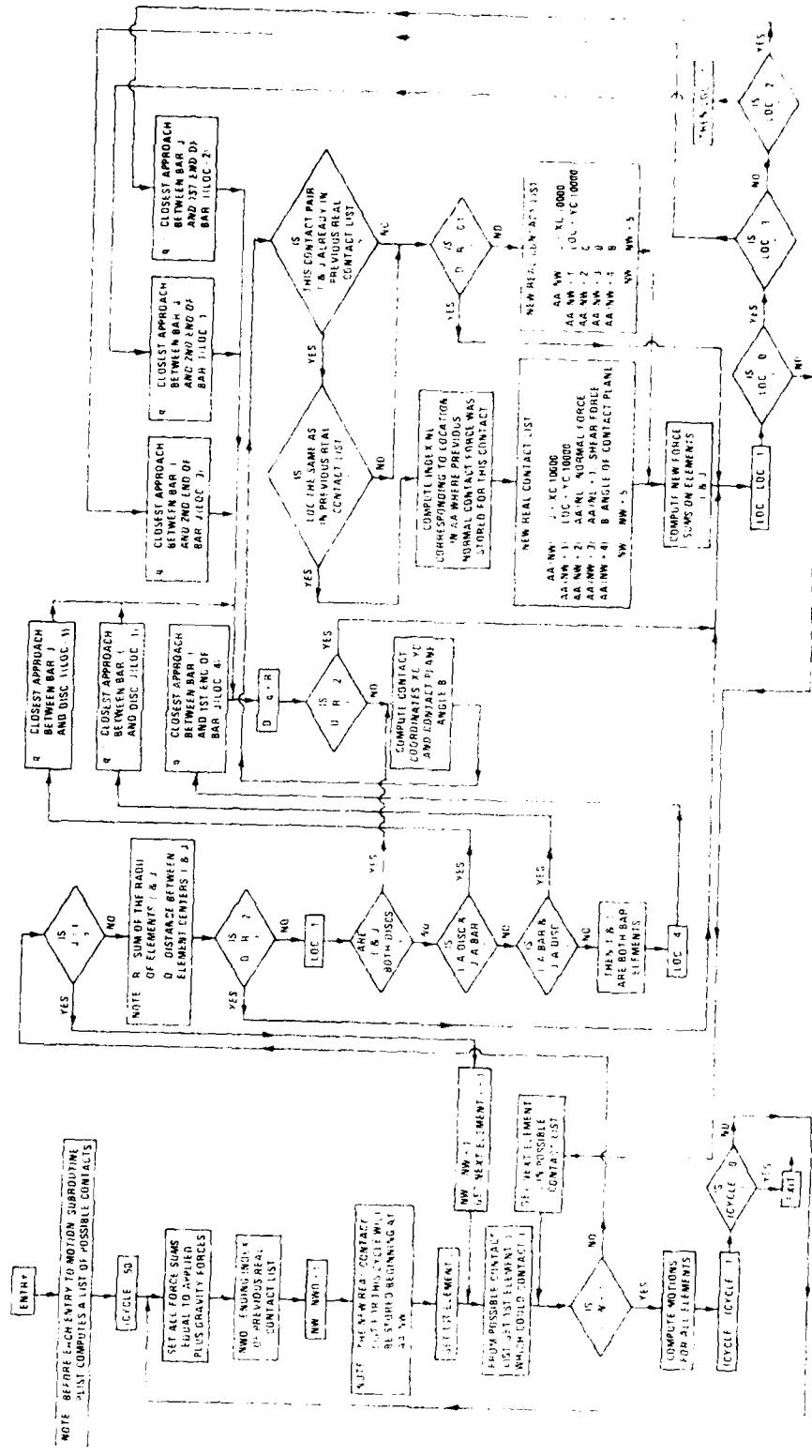


Figure 5. Flow chart of subroutine NOLLON

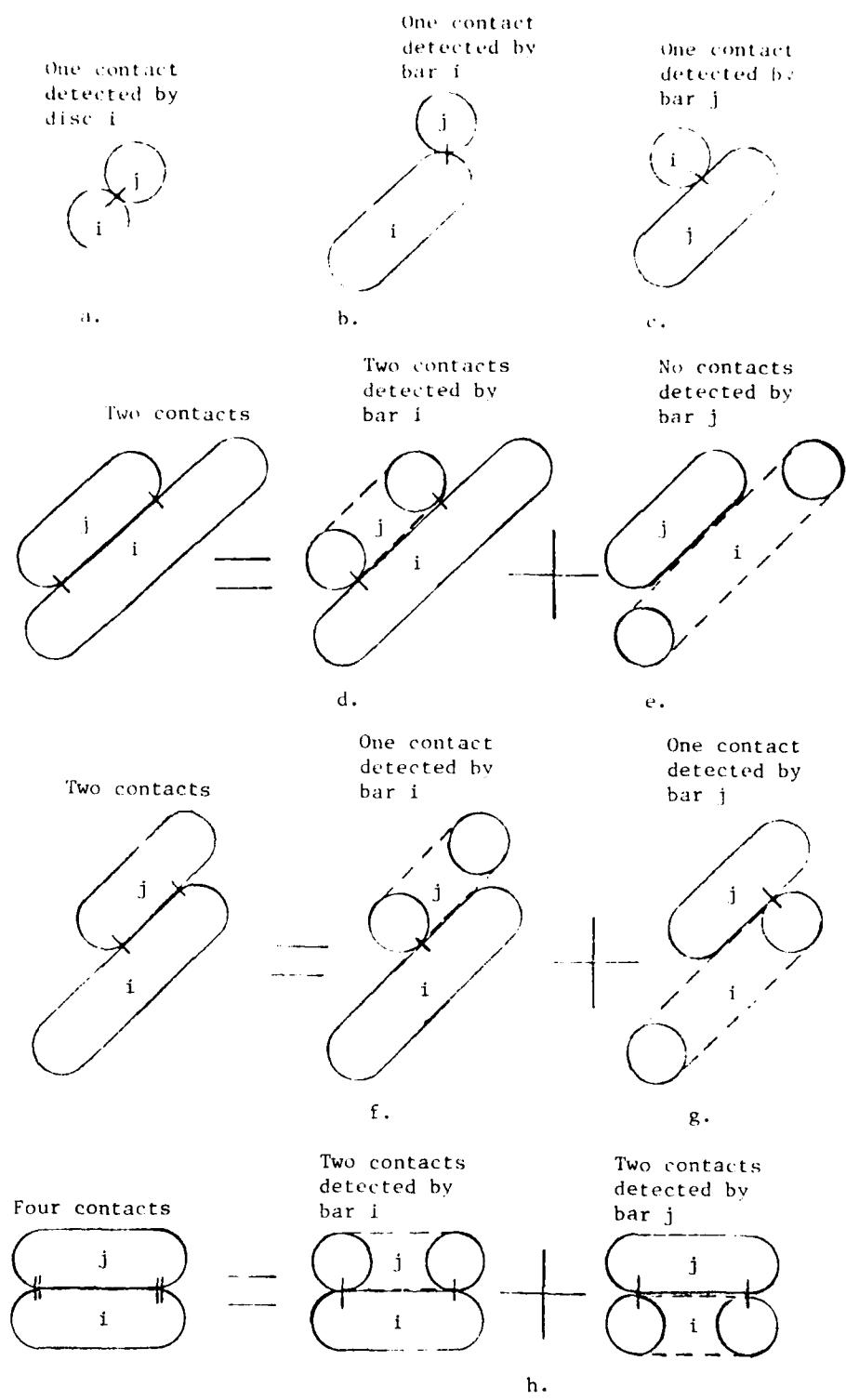


Figure 6. Detection of contacts

d. Both elements *i* and *j* are bar elements (Figures 6d, e, f, g, and h); one, two, or four contacts can result.

44. For situation *a*, it is simply necessary to determine if the disc elements are within the proximity criteria (to be discussed subsequently) in order to be real contacts.

45. For situation *b*, determine if disc element *j* is within the proximity criteria of the periphery of bar element *i*. If so, a real contact is detected.

46. For situation *c*, determine if disc element *i* is within the proximity criteria of the periphery of bar element *j*. If so, a real contact is detected.

47. For situation *d*, it is necessary to restrict the location of the points of contacts whenever two bar elements are parallel. For two parallel elements, the contact points are defined to be at the locations depicted in Figures 6d, e, f, g, and h, i.e., where circular ends of the elements become tangent to the central, straight portions. All of the contacts may be detected by considering two conditions: (1) element *i* to be a bar element and element *j* to be composed of two disc elements (the discs being located at either end of bar *j*), and (2) element *j* to be the bar element and element *i* to be composed of two disc elements.

48. Thus, as noted in Figure 6d, the necessary two contacts will be detected if *i* is considered to be the bar (condition (1) above) and *j* to be the two discs since both circular ends of bar *j* touch bar *i*. However, no contacts would be detected if *j* is the bar (Figure 6e, condition (2) above) since neither end of bar *i* makes contact with bar *j*. Figures 6f and 6g indicate that one contact is detected by choosing *i* as the bar and the other found by choosing *j* as the bar. Figure 6h represents the special case of two bars of equal length parallel to one another. In this case, four contacts (two coincident pairs) are detected; two from choosing *i* as the bar and two from choosing *j* as the bar.

49. For the situation in which two bar elements are not parallel, then only one contact between them is possible. However, the scheme just outlined for detecting contacts between bar elements is also used when examining skewed bar elements. The proximity criteria will reject any potential contacts not sufficiently close.

50. It must be mentioned that no matter whether element i or j or both are considered as the bar element (and the other as composed of two discs) when seeking contacts, the particulars about that contact are always associated with the lower numbered element, i.e., element i. This procedure is in keeping with the "going forward" rule.

Proximity criteria

51. The criteria for accepting or rejecting a possible contact are as follows:

- a. If the peripheries of the two elements are within two screen units of each other at the subject contact point (recall that the "standard" disc element radius is 20 screen units), the contact is accepted as a candidate contact. Otherwise, it is rejected for this iteration cycle.
- b. After a possible contact is elevated to candidate contact status, two more tests are necessary to finally accept the contact as a real contact. If this candidate contact is present in the contact list generated at the last time step cycle, it is accepted as a real contact and put in the new real contact list. If the candidate contact is not present in the previous contact list, then the two elements must be within 0.1 screen units of each other in order to be placed in the new real contact list. Otherwise, it is rejected for this iteration cycle.

Contact list

52. The contact list is a vector array in COMMON computer storage. This list contains the information about each contact that is necessary for further processing through subroutine MOTION. The contact array is defined by the named COMMON storage statement:

COMMON/STORE/AA(M x 24), NA(M)

Since M is the maximum number of elements (N is the actual number of elements) that may be considered for a problem, the size of AA is reserved to be at 24 times M. This size for AA should be adequate for most problems since only actual contacts are stored at any given step in the calculations. The contents of AA are constantly changing as the calculations proceed. The array AA should be thought of as divided into two segments: the first segment containing the contact information for

the just completed iteration (the previous contact list), and the second segment containing the information for the current contact list (or the new contact list). As contacts are detected, the contact information is embedded consecutively within the contact list. Since a given element can contact numerous other elements at any given time, the consecutive nature of the list is important to conserve memory. The array NA(i) given above is used to point to the location within AA where the contacts for a given element i begin.

53. Before describing the actual structure of the contact list, a discussion of the particular quantities going into the contact list is beneficial. For example, suppose a contact list is being built and the next available location within the array AA is AA(K), where K is the index within common storage. Further, suppose that a contact has just been detected between elements i and j and accepted as a real contact. Also, suppose that this same contact was present in the previous contact list starting at some location AA(L). Thus, the following information is put into the new contact list starting at AA(K):

$$AA(K) = j + x_c/10000$$

$$AA(K+1) = ID + y_c/10000$$

AA(K+2) = AA(L+2), the previous normal contact force

AA(K+3) = AA(L+3), the previous shear contact force

AA(K+4) = B, the angle from the horizontal to the contact plane

The symbols x_c and y_c are the coordinates of the point of contact, and ID is an identifier indicating the fashion in which the contact was detected (i.e., for all cases except two bar elements in contact, ID = 1; for two bar elements, ID takes on values of 1 to 4 depending in which sequence the contacts were found during the search). In effect, locations AA(K) and AA(K+1) each contain two pieces of information. That is, AA(K) contains as its whole part the element number j (contacting element i) and as its fractional part x_c . A similar situation holds for AA(K+1).

54. Strictly speaking, only the locations AA(K+2) and AA(K+3) contain information (the normal and shear forces on the contact) that

must be retained between iterations in order to accomplish the calculations for displacement. The need for storing the variables j and ID is to aid in determining if the contact now being considered is present in the previous contact list. The variables x_c , y_c , and B are retained in the contact list as an aid for later outputting of the results.

55. If it is now supposed that the contact being processed was not found present in the previous contact list, the new entry in the contact list would be the same as before, except

$$AA(K + 2) = 0.0$$

$$AA(K + 3) = 0.0$$

That is, the normal and shear contact forces would be set to zero.

56. Assuming that the contact between elements i and j just discussed was the first contact detected for element i , the contact list pointer $NA(i)$ is set equal to K . This pointer indicates the position in memory where the information about contacts for element i begins. Now that the contact data for this contact have been entered (and the entry required five memory locations), the next available location to store contact list data is determined by replacing K by $K + 5$ (i.e., $K \doteq K + 5$). Any additional detected contacts for element i are, in this manner, put consecutively into the contact list; each detected contact requiring an additional five memory locations. The index K is incremented by five following each entry. After all contacts for element i have been detected and entered into the contact list (and also in the case of no contacts at all being detected for element i), the end of this contact list segment (for element i) is signified by embedding a zero into array AA at location $K + 1$, i.e.,

$$AA(K + 1) = 0.0$$

The embedded zero indicates that this is the end of that segment of the contact list pertaining to element i . The next available location in array AA for storing contact data for the next element $i \doteq i + 1$ is now located at $K \doteq K + 2$. Since the next element i is now ready to be processed, the pointer $NA(i)$ is set equal to K . The just described process is repeated for all elements.

Initialization of contact data list

57. At the outset of each problem, it is assumed that there are no contacts between the various disc or bar elements. As mentioned in the preceding paragraph, zeros that are embedded in the contact list AA, at the location of the value of the element pointer NA(i), indicate no contacts for element i. Therefore, at the beginning of a problem containing N disc and bar elements, the value of the pointer NA(i) is set to i yielding

$$\begin{aligned} \text{NA}(1) &= 1 \\ \text{NA}(2) &= 2 \\ &\cdot \\ &\cdot \\ &\cdot \\ \text{NA}(N) &= N \end{aligned}$$

Since a zero located at NA(i) within the array AA indicates no contacts, the array AA(K) is set to zero (for values of K = 1, N). In general, the first time cycle in MOTION will result in some contacts. The next available location to begin storing the first contact within AA is at N + 1. The new pointer value for the first contact detected will be set to NA(i) = N + 1.

58. Therefore, after each cycle of iteration the value of the pointer NA(i) is the location within the array AA where the contact list information about element i begins. If the element i has no contacts, the value AA(NA(i)) will be zero, signifying the end of the contact list segment for element i. If element i does possess contacts, the value AA(NA(i)) will be set to $j + x_c/10000$. To find the end of the contact list segment for element i, it is necessary to skip through array AA by increments of five (starting at AA(NA(i))) until a zero is found. The next available location in AA will possess information about element i + 1.

Example of contact list information

59. Consider the simple example shown in Figure 7a. At the start of the problem, two disc elements (2 and 3) are at rest on bar

element 1. An additional disc element (5) is resting upon bar element 4. Both bar elements are assumed to be fixed, i.e., they are prevented from rotation and translation. Assuming that the only forces acting on this system are due to gravity, the subsequent motions of the disc elements may be visualized according to the sequence indicated by Figure 7. Figure 8 shows the structure of the contact list for various stages of movement.

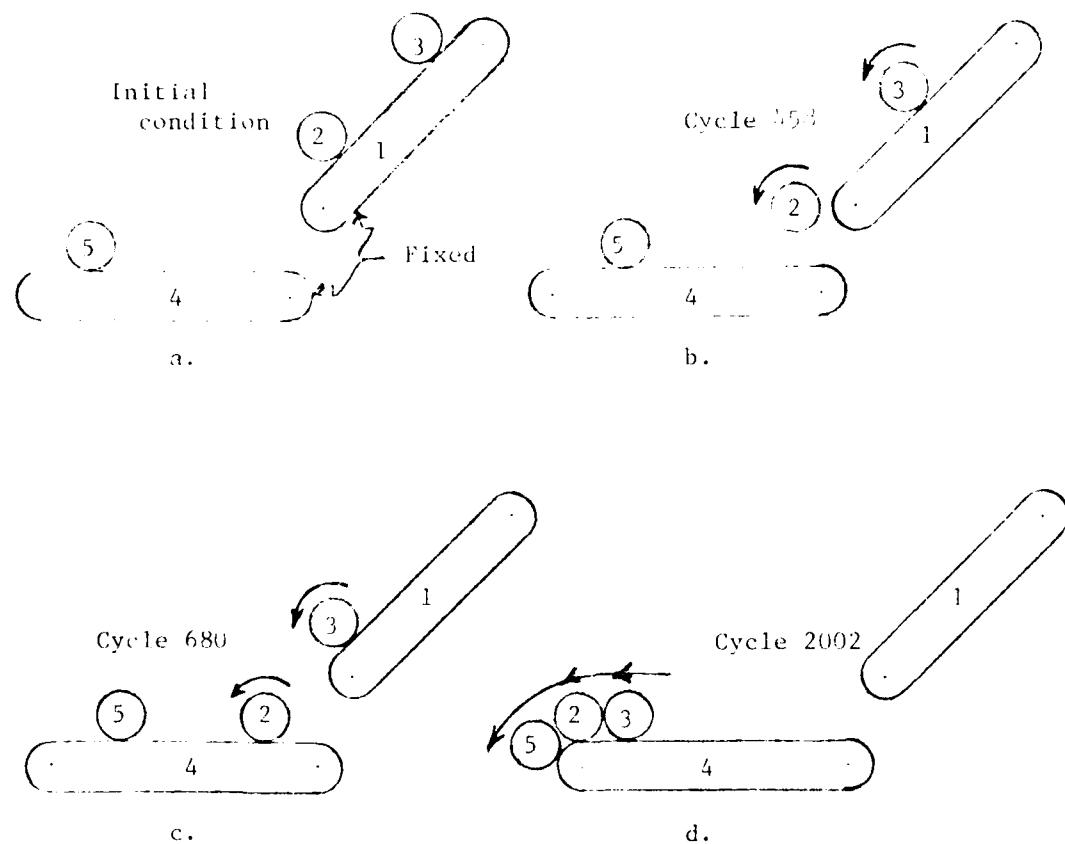


Figure 7. The contact list

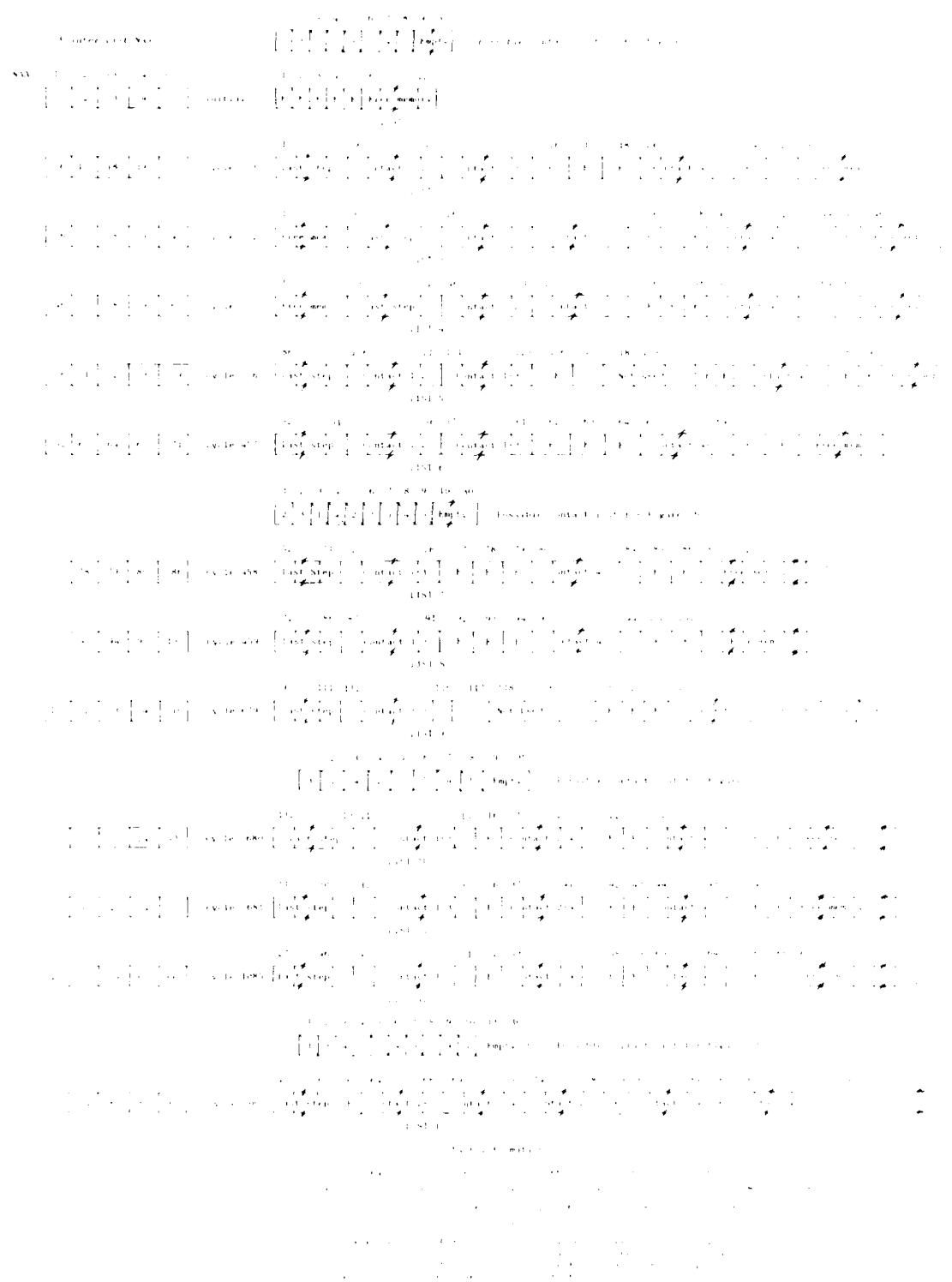


Figure 8. Organization of the contact lists

60. As previously mentioned, each call to subroutine MOTION is preceded by a call to subroutine PLIST. Subroutine PLIST creates the possible contact list LL. The list LL as given at the top of Figure 8 is for the conditions shown in Figure 7a. The interpretation of the list is as follows: elements 2 and 3 may contact element 1, element 2 has no (as yet undetected) contacts, element 3 has no (as yet undetected) contacts, element 5 may contact element 4, and element 5 has no undetected contacts.

61. At the outset of any problem, the pointer list NA(1) is initialized to the value of 1 and the contact list is set to zero. Thus, initially, NA(element 1) = 1, NA(2) = 2, ..., NA(5) = 5, and the contact data list (list 1, Figure 8) contains zeros as indicated by the symbol E (for empty). Since there are five elements in the problem, the first five storage locations are set to zero (as indicated by the five "E's" in list 1). The next available location for contact storage (at the next, or in this case the first cycle) is location 6.

62. The situation for the first cycle of MOTION is shown in list 2 (Figure 8). The pointer values NA are: NA(1) = 6, NA(2) = 17, NA(3) = 18, NA(4) = 19, and NA(5) = 25. Location 6 of list 2 is the beginning of the contact information for contact between elements 1 and 2. Immediately following the contact information for contact 1-2 is the information for contact 1-3 (starting at location 11 and ending at location 15). The zero (symbol E) embedded at location 16 signifies that there are no more contacts for element 1. Contact information for element 2 begins in the contact list at location 17 (NA(2) = 17). Location 17 contains a zero, which indicates that there are no contacts for element 2. Similarly, no contacts exist for element 3. The pointer for element 4 (NA(4) = 19) points to a nonzero value. Thus, the next five memory locations (19-24) yield contact information for contact 4-5. The pointer for element 5 (NA(5) = 25) points to a zero; therefore, there are no new contacts for element 5. Indeed, the last element may never possess any contact not already found.

63. A total of 20 memory locations were required to store all of the contacts for cycle 1. Since storage began at location 6, at present

25 locations have been used. Thus, the next available location for storage is 26.

64. At any given time cycle, it is necessary to retain the contact information about the previous time cycle. Only by retaining this information is it possible to check whether or not a detected contact was present at the last stage or if the contact is new. (If the contact is old, the normal and shear forces for the previous cycle are entered into the new contact list; otherwise, zero values for shear and normal forces are entered.) Figure 8 gives the new contact list for cycle 2 (List 3). List 3 is exactly the same as List 2 except the new contact list begins at location 26 and ends at location 45. It is readily apparent that all of these "new" contacts entered into the new contact list were present at the previous cycle. The pointer NA for a particular element is not updated to the new location until after it is used to check whether or not this same contact was present in the previous list. For example, contact 1-2 has been identified as a contact for cycle 2, and the contact information is to be entered at locations 26 through 30. The pointer value for element 1, NA(1), still has a value of 6. By going to location 6, it is noted that contact 1-2 was present in the previous contact list. The pointer value NA(1) is temporarily updated to a value of 11 so as to be directly pointing to the next location in the previous contact list where contact information about element 1 was stored. Thus, when contact 1-3 is examined (as to whether or not it was in the previous list), the pointer is in the proper position for quick recognition of this preexisting contact. After it has been determined that all contacts for element 1 have been exhausted, the pointer NA(1) is set to the new, current value of 26.

65. At each and every cycle an examination is completely carried out for every contact given in the possible contact list. Information stored for the previous cycle is not used at all for determining whether

or not a contact is entered into the new contact list.* Only after it has been decided to enter a contact into the list is a scanning of the previous list required (and then only to decide what to do with the shear and normal forces). The method for updating the element pointer NA(1) simply provides an efficient method for checking on the presence of the contact in question.

66. The situation for cycle 3 is shown in list 4. Again, the organization is the same as for cycles 1 and 2 except the new contact list is removed by 20 more locations (i.e., locations 46 through 65). The situation for cycle 4 is not shown, but would be similar, except the new contact list would be stored in locations 66 through 85. This process could be carried out indefinitely; however, at some point memory would become exhausted. Since it is necessary to store contact information only for the previous and present cycles, a scheme was developed for recovering all available memory.

* There is an option available that precludes the searching for contacts at each and every cycle. By entering a suitable variable (Command I in the Input Phase (Figure 9)), it is possible to stipulate that complete searches for contacts will be made only after every so many cycles. Unless otherwise stipulated through these options, a complete search is made for those element contacts in the possible contact list at each cycle. If the option is used, the program assumes that the current real contact list is to be used over and over; the shear and normal forces are being constantly updated. During this time, the contact coordinates and contact plane angles are properly computed. The use of this option can be dangerous since new contacts will not be detected until a complete search is called for. A complete search is always made upon each entry into MOTION. The use of this option can significantly reduce computer processing time since it negates the need for contact searches and for creating a new contact list.

67. Suppose that 120 storage locations* have been reserved for contact information as indicated in Figure 8. While processing in cycle 1, it is apparent that locations 1 through 25 are needed for the present and the previous contact lists. Thus, locations 26 through 120 are available as "free" memory for future cycles. While in cycle 2, the required memory locations are 6 through 45 (old plus new contact list). Therefore, the free memory consists of locations 46 through 120 plus 1 through 5. At cycle 3, the free memory consists of locations 66 through 120 plus 1 through 25. During cycle 4, the free memory extends from locations 86 through 120 plus 1 through 45. At cycle 5, the free memory consists of locations 106 through 120 plus 1 through 65. Thus, as cycle 6 is entered (and will require 20 locations to store the new contact list), it is apparent that the reserved memory space of 120 will

* The size of common memory for the variables used in program DISC is set through the use of a Fortran PARAMETER statement. As seen from an examination of the program listing, the space allocated for the contact list AA is set to $M \times 24$, where M is the maximum number of elements permitted for a problem. In practice, M will often be greater than the actual number of elements being considered, thus extra memory space is generally allocated. The common dimensions of $M \times 24$ should be adequate for most problems. For example, consider a collection of closely packed uniform disc elements, x discs wide by y discs high. The total number of elements is xy . The maximum total number of contacts for this collection may be shown to be $3xy - 2(x + y) + 1$. Since five storage spaces are required for each current contact (plus one additional space for each contact to store the zero or "E" marks) the storage S required to contain the current contact list is

$$\begin{aligned} S &= 5[(3xy - 2(x + y) + 1)] + xy \\ &= 16xy - 10(x + y) + 5 \end{aligned}$$

Neglecting the last two terms, S equals 16 times the total number of elements. Technically, twice this amount of storage is required at any given cycle since the last contact list must be scanned to prepare the current contact list. In actuality, twice the amount is not needed because as soon as the new contacts are entered into the current contact list, there is no longer any need for the corresponding previous contact (as long as the sequence of insertion remains the same). At present, it is felt that a reserved space of $M \times 24$ should be adequate for most problems.

be exceeded unless the front part of memory is reused. This condition can be avoided by computing the amount of free memory still available up to location 120 after each entry into the contact list. Since the next entry could require five additional storage locations, the beginning of the next entry is directed to location 1 if sufficient memory does not exist. Therefore, as shown for cycle 6, the first detected contact 1-2 is placed in locations 106 through 110, and the next contact placed in locations 111 through 115. The five storage locations available before location 120 are sufficient for storage of one more contact. However, contact 1-3 was the last contact for element 1. Therefore, a zero ("E") is placed at location 116, signifying the end of contacts for element 1. There are now only four available locations before the end of the reserved memory and, therefore, not enough locations to store information for a detected contact. The program now directs that storage begin at location 1. As shown for cycle 6, a zero ("E") is placed in location 1 (signifying that element 2 has no, as yet, undetected contacts). The pointer NA(2) is set to the value of 1. Locations 117 through 120 are not used.

68. As long as the contacts do not change, the calculations will proceed as described in cycles 1 through 6, each cycle requiring an additional 20 new storage locations of free memory. Cycle 457 is the situation just before element 2 rolls off bar element 1. Figure 8 presents the possible contact list existing for the conditions shown in Figure 7b. The interpretation of this list is as follows: elements 2 and 3 may contact element 1, element 4 may contact element 2, element 3 has no undetected contacts, element 5 may contact element 4, and element 5 has no new contacts. The possible contacts 1-2 and 2-4 are included in the possible contact list; however, they will be excluded as real contacts in MOTION since the situation shown in Figure 7b is for the condition where element 2 is just breaking contact with element 1 and before contact with element 4. Figure 8 also shows the new contact list for cycle 458. Note that there are now only two contacts (contacts 1-3 and 4-5). The contact list for cycle 459 is just as it was for cycle 458 except the new contact is stored an additional 15 locations further

along in memory. Cycle 679 is the situation just before element 2 hits element 4. In addition, Figure 8 presents the possible contact list and the resulting new contact lists (cycles 680, 681, and 1085). Notice that again there are three contacts (contacts 1-3, 2-4, and 4-5).

69. In Figure 8, the possible contact list and the contact data list are given for some much later time (say cycle 2002). These lists are for the conditions depicted in Figure 7d. By this time, all of the disc elements are in contact and proceeding to roll off the end of element 4. At this stage, five contacts are detected (contacts 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 3-4, and 4-5). Thus, 30 additional storage locations are required to store the contacts at each cycle.

Calculations of forces on the elements

70. As each element is, in turn, examined for contacts, the sum of all forces acting on the element is computed. Preceding each time cycle of iteration the force sum is set equal to the applied plus gravity loads, i.e.,

$$F_{ysum}^i = \text{vertical applied load minus the gravity load}$$

$$F_{xsum}^i = \text{horizontal applied load}$$

$$M_{sum}^i = \text{applied moment}$$

In the event that the element being examined possesses no contacts, the computation proceeds directly to the calculation of accelerations and displacements (see Equations 6 through 9, Part II). If contacts are found for the element being considered, then the force sums are modified in accordance with Equations 1 through 5. The force sums are updated for both elements in contact. For example, suppose a situation exists in which element 3 makes contact with elements 5 and 7. When element 3 is examined for its contacts, the force sums will be updated twice (once for element 5 and again for element 7). During this process, the force sums for elements 5 and 7 are also updated. Then when element 5 is examined and it is determined that it has no, as yet, undetected contacts, the computation will proceed directly to Equation 6 since the force sum for element 5 was updated at the time when element 3 was examined. The same holds for element 7.

71. The computations of Equations 8 and 9 are particularly important. Equation 8 yields the new incremental element centroid displacements, and Equation 9 yields the new coordinates of the element centroid. It is these quantities that are required by Equation 1 for the next iteration cycle.

Other Subroutines

Subroutine PLTFOR

72. Subroutine PLTFOR is used to output the forces acting at the contacts between elements. Recalling that the contact list is structured such that each element has at least one entry (if no contacts were detected) and further that the storage is in sequential order, it is possible to, at any stage, thread through the contact list to obtain the contact forces. For each element i that possesses contacts, the contact list contains:

- a. The number j of the element being contacted by i .
- b. The ID number for the contact (two bar elements in contact may have up to four contact points).
- c. The contact point coordinates, x_c and y_c .
- d. The normal and shear forces acting at the contact, F_n^c and F_s^c (stored as $AA(K + 2)$ and $AA(K + 3)$ in memory).
- e. The angle to the contact plane, B .

73. These forces are output graphically. A pass is first made through the contact list to determine the largest absolute value of the shear or normal force in the list. This quantity is used to calculate a scale factor, and the vector representing this force will be 20 screen units long. The other vectors drawn to represent the shear and normal forces will be proportional. Thus, after each call to PLTFOR, a graphical representation of the contact forces are drawn on the screen. The contact coordinates x_c and y_c are used to locate the position of the vectors to be drawn, the shear force is drawn at the angle B , and the normal force perpendicular to the shear force. The user also has the option of obtaining a printout of the contact forces (Figure 9 or 10).

Subroutine LOOP

74. Subroutine LOOP is used to check whether or not the cross-hair cursor is located in the vicinity of an element centroid. In some cases, this test is used to modify certain commands.

Subroutine INTERVAL

75. Subroutine INTERVAL is used to change the frequency of returning control to the terminal. The normal method is to perform 250 time steps of calculations before halting calculations. At each halt the user directs what action is to be taken next.

Subroutine GRID

76. Subroutine GRID causes a grid to be drawn on the screen.

Subroutine SAVE

77. Subroutine SAVE may be called at any time by OUTPUT to store the current element geometry in memory. Subroutine SAVE is automatically called on each exit from INPUT. This feature provides the user a means of reworking the same geometry with, perhaps, a different set of parameters.

Subroutine CIRCLE

78. Subroutine CIRCLE aids in the graphical output of disc and bar elements.

Subroutine SCREEN

79. Subroutine SCREEN is used to position the alpha cursor on the screen following input queries and some output functions. It prevents overwriting certain areas of the screen.

Subroutine GEN

80. This subroutine may be called during the INPUT phase. Its function is to create a collection of disc elements touching one another in a dense packing.

Subroutine VECTOR

81. This subroutine is used to vary the form of the graphical output. The normal mode of display is to draw the elements on the screen at their current positions. Subroutine VECTOR causes the display to track the element centroids.

Subroutine WEIGHT

82. Subroutine WEIGHT may be used to modify the weight of any or all elements.

Subroutine DAMP

83. Subroutine DAMP is used to change the damping constant K.

PART IV: PROGRAM OPERATOR

84. The computer program DISC was written in such a fashion as to keep the data preparation simple and minimal. As a result, use of computer graphics was employed to a large extent. Most of the commands necessary to operate DISC consist of single keystrokes at the Tektronix terminal. Figures 9 and 10 are the computer user's guides for the operation of DISC. Figure 9 gives a more detailed discussion of the user commands; Figure 10 is an abbreviated command listing. When one first uses the program DISC, the information given in Figure 9 should guide the user in the operation of the program. After the user becomes familiar with the program, the abbreviated command list (Figure 10) should suffice.

85. According to the user's guides, all input is initiated by entering a single character, following the appearance of the crosshair cursor. The crosshair cursor consists of two perpendicular lines crossing the screen of the terminal. The position of the intersections of the two lines is controlled by a set of thumbwheels on the terminal. In many instances, the entry of the single character is sufficient to accomplish whatever is desired. In other instances, certain parameters (or numbers) associated with the single character command are required. If the command requires one or more parameters, the alpha cursor (a small matrix of dots) will appear on the screen. As soon as the alpha cursor appears, the input parameters may be typed.

86. The detailed user's guide (Figure 9) is complete regarding the meaning of the various commands and, as such, will not be discussed further. Three examples will, instead, be described in order to illustrate the program.

87. Figure 11 is a series of computer drawings that describe a very simple problem. As soon as program DISC is called into execution, the message "INPUT PHASE" is written on the screen (Figure 11a). The collection of three elements was created in the following order:

```

100 ***** INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPERATION OF PROGRAM 'DISC' *****
101 *
102 * Commands for Input Phase
103 *
104 *
105 * All commands are entered after the appearance of the crosshair cursor
106 * Parameters, if required, are entered after appearance of the alpha
107 * cursor which will appear on the right side of the screen.
108 *
109 * KEY---Parameters
110 * -----
111 * [space]---none
112 * -----
113 *
114 *
115 * 1
116 *
117 *
118 * 2
119 *
120 *
121 *
122 *
123 * A
124 *
125 *
126 *
127 * B---(3)
128 *
129 *
130 *
131 *
132 *
133 *
134 *
135 *

Commands for Input Phase
-----
```

All commands are entered after the appearance of the crosshair cursor
Parameters, if required, are entered after appearance of the alpha
cursor which will appear on the right side of the screen.

KEY---Parameters

	Description
[space]	Creates disc element centered at crosshair cursor position
1	1st end of a bar element (semicircle centered at crosshair)
2	2nd end of a bar element. Note: repeated hitting of the 2 key will create bar elements touching the the 2nd end of the preceding bar element.
A	Creates a disc element adjacent to a preceding disc element in direction indicated by the crosshairs
B---(3)	Generates a Batch of disc elements touching each other configured by entering parameters. The 1st element is centered at the crosshairs. Parameters 1st-- # of discs in bottom row 2nd-- # of rows 3rd-- increment for more or less discs(for-) for each successive row upward

Figure 9. Detailed instructions (Sheet 1 of 6)

```

136 * D Draws all elements. Screen will first erase
137 * and then redraw all elements.
138 *
139 *
140 * C Prints Coordinates of indicated element
141 *
142 * R Changes value for Radius of discs and
143 * width of bar elements. Default value=20.
144 * screen units.
145 *
146 * J---(2) Moves the J-th element to new position
147 * given by parameters (x-y coordinates).
148 * Redisplay by hitting D key
149 *
150 * P---(2) Re-Position all elements to new position
151 * (Given by parameters) relative to element
152 * indicated. Screen automatically erases
153 * + or;
154 * Draws a Grid on the screen.
155 *
156 * E Ends input phase. Calls compute phase. Also
157 * causes a copy of the current geometry to be
158 * stored in memory
159 *
160 * I---(1) Sets interval between complete searches to
161 * detect contacts. Default value=1, maximum
162 * value =50
163 *
164 * [Backspace] Recalls & displays the last stored copy
165 *
166 * *****
167 * *****
168 * Commands for Compute Phase
169 * -----
170 *
171 * The following commands are effective regardless of the position
172 * of the crosshair cursor.
173 *

```

Key-parameters		Description
174 * 175 *	-----	
176 * G		GO- Calculate motions. Program calculates the # of cycles given under I command (below). Default interval is 250 cycles
177 * I---(1)		Sets Interval between program interrupts. Program calculates the given # of cycles before inquiring as to what action is to be taken next. Default value is 250 cycles
178 * 179 *	-----	
180 * N		New problem. Screen erases, all memory is set to zero. Returns to input phase.
181 * 182 *	-----	
183 *		Saves current geometry and fixities. (Replaces the stored copy which was automatically saved upon exit from input phase.
184 *		
185 *		Damping factor-parameter is X of critical damping. Default value is 1.0
186 *		Zeroes all element velocities.
187 *		Draws a clock on the screen giving time from start of problem
188 *		Fixes all elements from movement
189 *		Erases (kills) screen. Reset page can be used for same, however K causes the command to be computer generated--handy if copying to a disc or tape device.
190 *		
191 *		Draws all elements
192 *		Causes vector plot of contact forces to be
193 *		
194 *	Q---(1)	
195 *		
196 *	Z	
197 *	C	
198 *		
199 *		
200 *		
201 *	f	
202 *		
203 *		
204 *	K	
205 *		
206 *		
207 *		
208 *	D	
209 *		
210 *	O(letter)--[where]	
211 *		

```

212 * displayed. If printed output is desired,
213 * position the crosshair to the upper right
214 * side of [Where] printing is to start.
215 * Then hit the H key. Hitting any other key
216 * will give plot only
217 *
218 * or :
219 * Causes output to be in vector mode, i.e.
220 * instead of circles & bars being drawn, lines
221 * connecting successive element centroid
222 * locations are drawn. Repetition of X key
223 * alternates modes back & forth.
224 +
225 E
226 + or ;
227 E
228
229
230
231
232
233 The following commands are effective ONLY when the crosshair is
234 centered (located within 5 screen units) on the centroid of the
235 element for which the effect is desired.
236
237 Key-parameters
238
239 F
240
241 X-Y-& angular.
242 X
243
244 Y
245 Y
246 M
247 M
248 U
249 U

```

The following commands are effective ONLY when the crosshair is centered (located within 5 screen units) on the centroid of the element for which the effect is desired.

Key-parameters

Description

Fix element (from moving) in all directions X-Y-& angular.

Fix element from movement in X-direction.

Fix element in Y-direction

Fix element in angular (moment) direction

Unfix the element. Note: if any element has

Figure 9. (Sheet 4 of 6)

```

250 * previously been fixed in one or more
251 * modes, and it is desired to change that
252 * element to a different mode, first Unfix
253 * the element before assigning the new fixity
254 *
255 * [Erase]
256 * L---(3)
257 *
258 * Apply a load to a element at its centroid
259 * 1st parameter-X load
260 * 2nd parameter-Y load
261 * 3rd parameter-Moment
262 * Note: Each unit of load or moment is
263 * equivalent to the weight or moment
264 * of inertia of the standard 20
265 * screen unit radius circle
266 *
267 * Sets INITIAL velocity in each direction.
268 * In screen units per second
269 * 1st parameter-X velocity
270 * 2nd parameter-Y velocity
271 * 3rd parameter-Rotational velocity
272 *
273 * Sets velocity to prescribed CONSTANT value
274 * Parameters same as above.
275 *
276 * Prints coordinates of indicated element.
277 * Parameters same as above.
278 *
279 * ? or /---[where]
280 * Causes centroid information to be printed
281 * on screen. After hitting ? key, position
282 * crosshair [where] output is to be printed.
283 * Output is of the form:
284 * El no.---X force---Y force---Moment
285 * X vel---Y vel---Ang vel
286 * Fix code---Weight fac---Fric val---tension val
287 *

```

288 * The following commands may be interpreted in two different ways.
 289 * If the crosshair cursor is positioned on an element centroid, then
 290 * ONLY that element is affected by the command. If the crosshair is
 291 * NOT positioned on ANY centroid, the command applies to ALL elements
 292 *

Key--parameters	Description
294 *	
295 *	
296 *	θ (zero)---(1)
297 *	Angle of friction in degrees for element. ($\text{curtan } \theta$). If two contacting elements have different friction angles, the coefficient associated with the smallest angle is used. Negative angles can be entered. If so, the coefficient is computed as the absolute value of the most negative angle. For example---if el # 1 has $\theta=0$, and el # 2 has $\theta=-30$, then the coefficient of friction between el #1 & el #2 is $\tan(-30)$. Default value is $\theta=26.56'$, $u=0.5$.
298 *	T---(1)
299 *	Tension value (force units) between elements Default value is 0.0. Same rule for negative values applies as for θ .
300 *	u---(1)
301 *	Weight factor for element(s). Used to increase or decrease weight or to make all elements weightless. The mass is not changed Default value is 1.0.
302 *	^----^
303 *	Used to determine distance & angle between two points. Hit ^ key at 1st point, then hit ^ (or any key) at 2nd point. Distance and angle (degrees) between them is printed. If crosshair is on/near an element centroid for either hit, the element centroid coor- dinates are used exactly.
304 *	xxxxxx
305 *	xxxxxx
306 *	xxxxxx
307 *	xxxxxx
308 *	xxxxxx
309 *	xxxxxx
310 *	xxxxxx
311 *	xxxxxx
312 *	xxxxxx
313 *	xxxxxx
314 *	xxxxxx
315 *	xxxxxx
316 *	xxxxxx
317 *	xxxxxx
318 *	xxxxxx
319 *	xxxxxx
320 *	xxxxxx
321 *	xxxxxx
322 *	xxxxxx
323 *	xxxxxx
324 *	xxxxxx
325 *	xxxxxx

Figure 9. (Sheet 6 of 6)

```

100 *****
101 * ABBREVIATED COMMAND INSTRUCTIONS FOR "DISC"
102 *
103 *
104 *
105 *
106 *
107 *
108 *
109 * Key-parameters
110 *
111 * [space]
112 *
113 *
114 * 1
115 * 2
116 * -
117 * -
118 * A
119 * B---(3)
120 *
121 *
122 *
123 *
124 * C
125 *
126 * R
127 *
128 * J---(2)
129 *
130 * P---(2)
131 * + or ;
132 *
133 *
134 * E
135 *

Input phase
-----
```

	Description
Creates disc element	
1st end of bar element	-
2nd end of bar element	-
Places disc element Adjacent to preceding	-
Creates Bunch of disc elements	-
Draws all elements	-
Prints coordinates of element	-
Changes Radius of disc (width of bar).	-
Moves J-th element	-
Re-Positions all elements	-
Draws a Grid	-
Ends input phase. Creates a stored copy.	-

Figure 10. Abbreviated instructions (Sheet 1 of 3)

```

136 * I---(1)                               Sets interval between contact searches.
137 * [backspace]                            Recalls last stored copy.
138 *
139 *
140 *
141 * Compute phase
142 *
143 * Key-parameters
144 * Description
145 *
146 *
147 * G--calculate motions
148 * I---(1)
149 * Set Interval between queries ( #-cycles)
150 * N--New problem. Restart from scratch.
151 *
152 * S--Save (store) a copy of present geometry
153 *
154 * Q---(1)
155 * Damping factor.
156 * Set all velocities to Zero.
157 * Z--Draws clock on screen.
158 * C--Fixes all elements.
159 * F--Erase (Kill) screen.
160 * D--Draws all elements.
161 * S--Output contact forces.
162 * V--Output to vector mode and vice versa
163 * G--Grid is drawn.
164 *
165 * O (letter)--[where]
166 * O or :
167 * + or ;
168 *
169 *
170 *
171 *
172 *
173 *

```

Figure 10. (Sheet 2 of 3)

Figure 10. (Sheet 3 of 3)

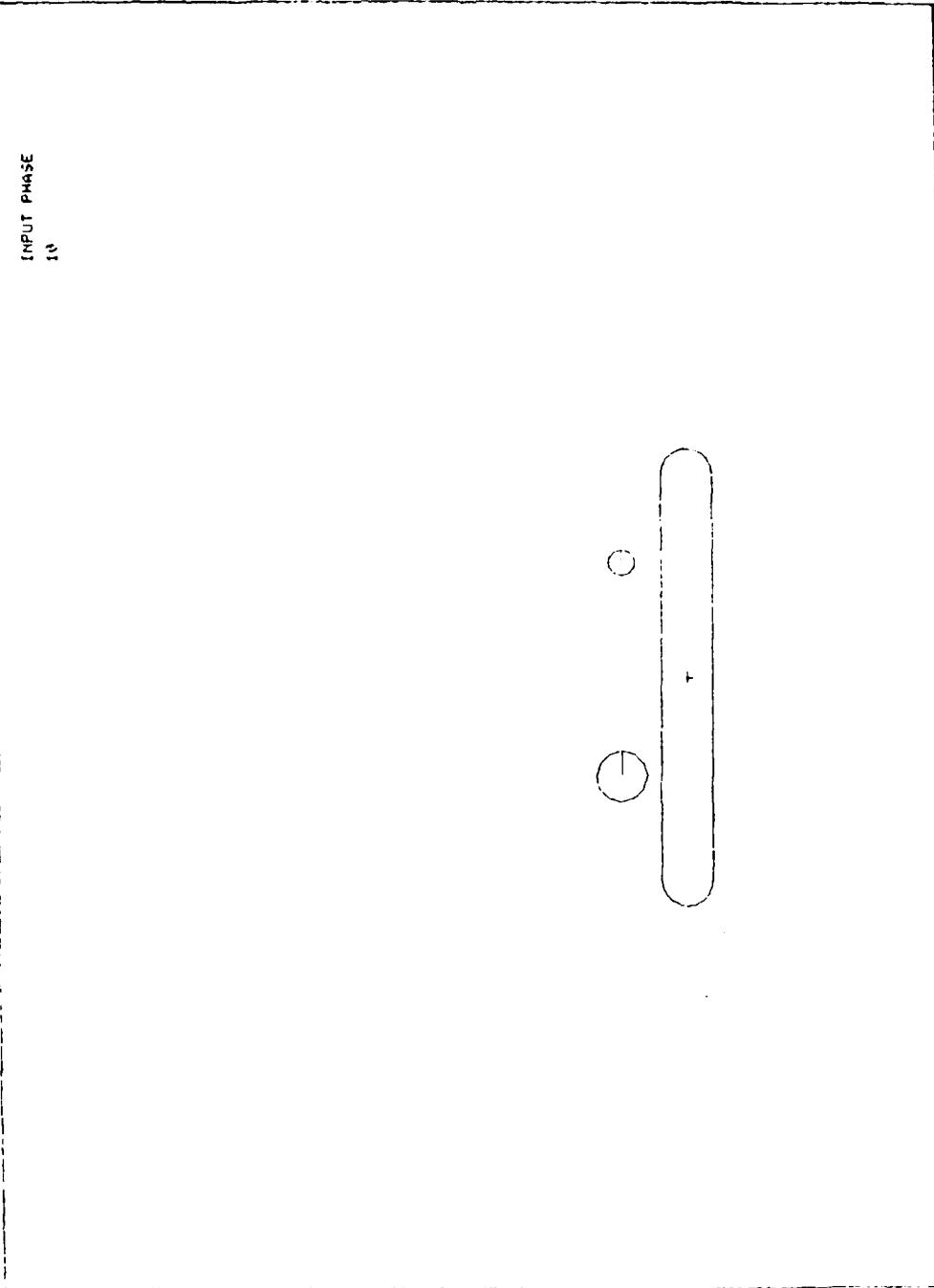


Figure 11. Example No. 1 (Sheet 1 of 10)

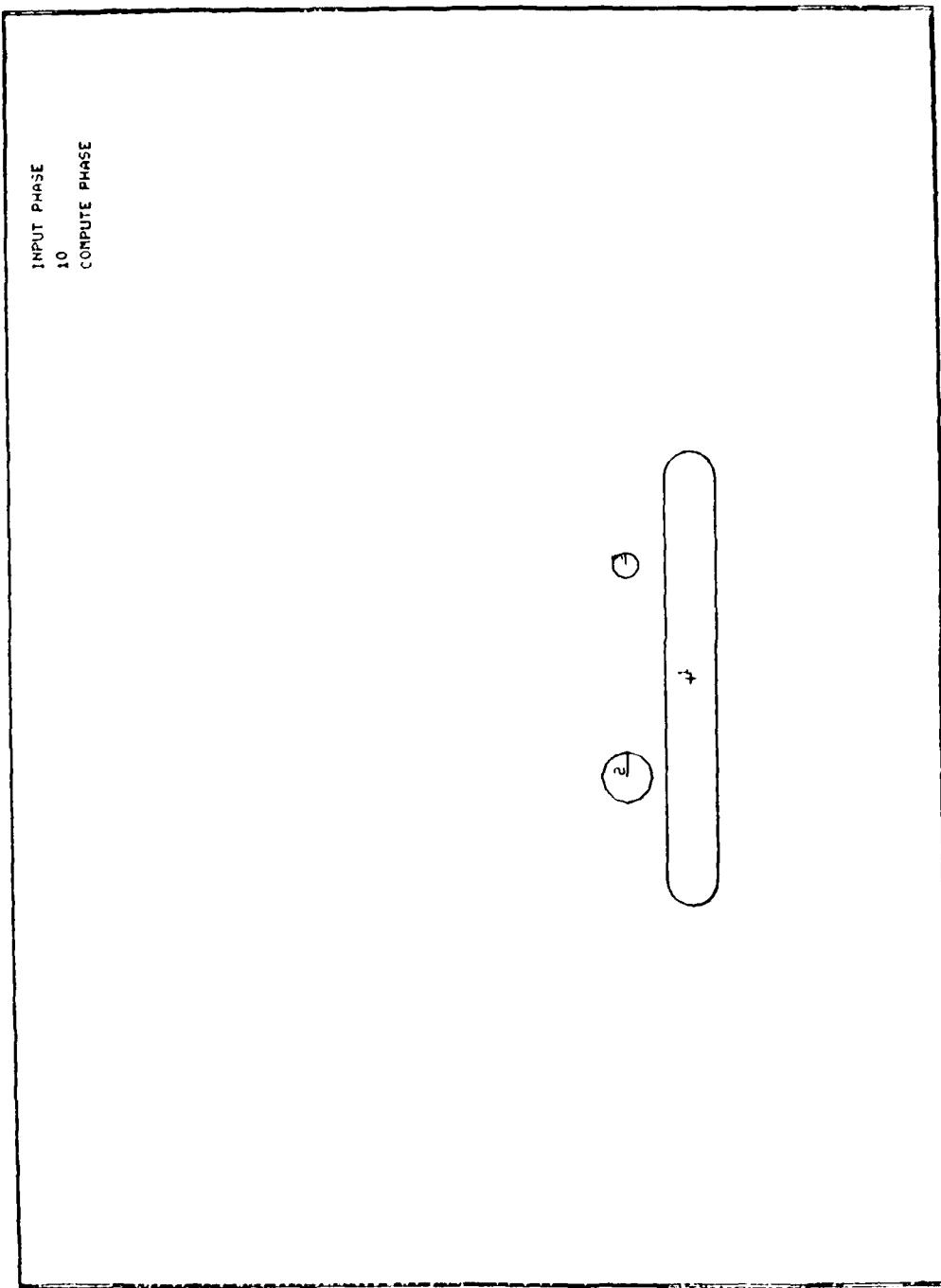


Figure 11. (Sheet 2 of 10)

INPUT PHASE
10
COMPUTE PHASE

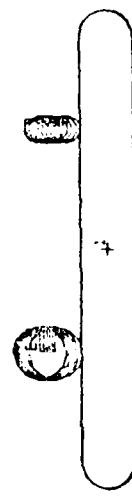
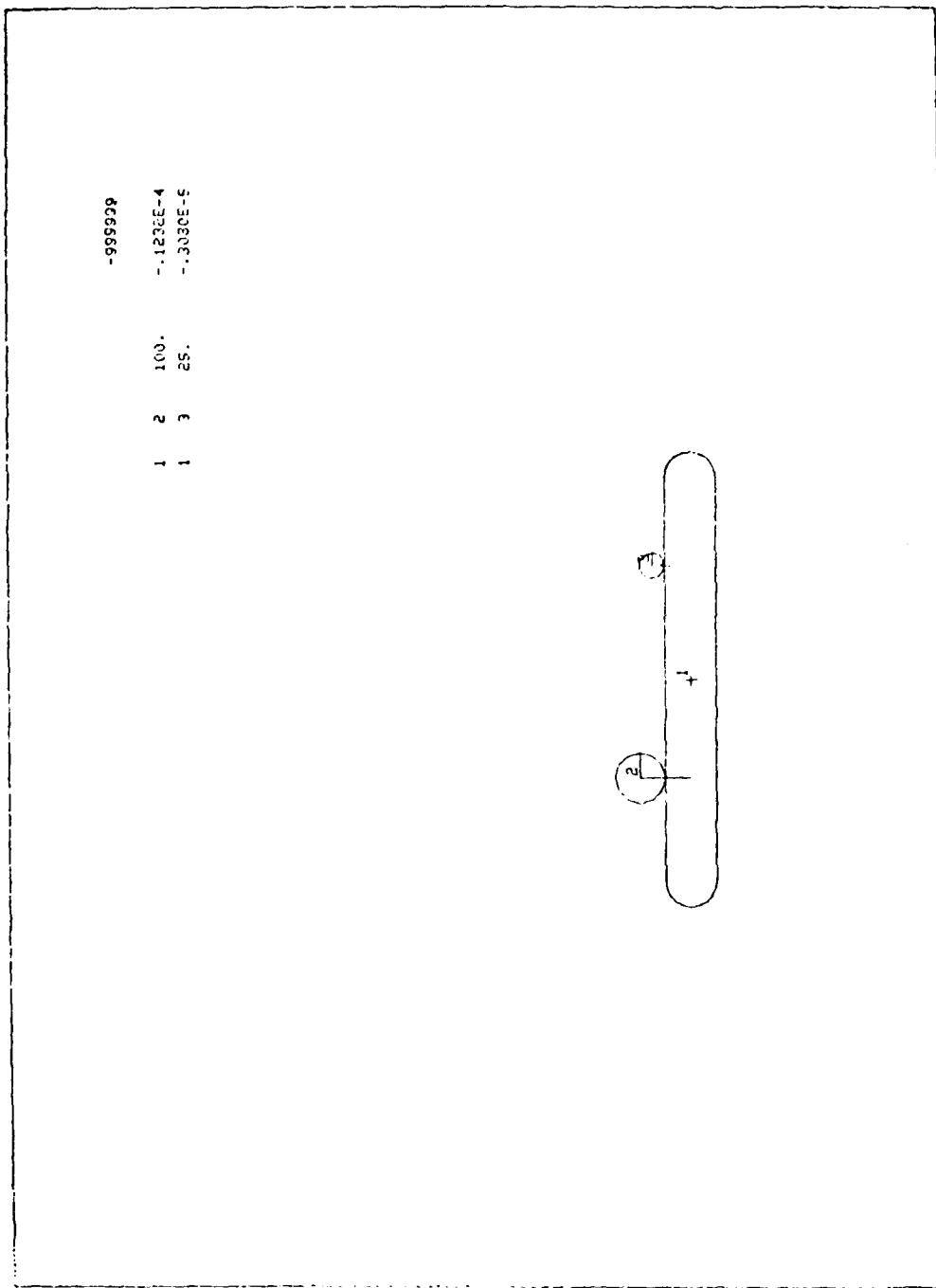


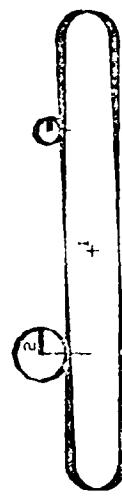
Figure 11. (Shortest Path Tree)



8

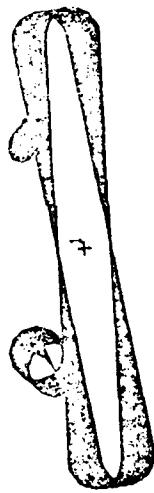
d.
Figure 11. (Sheet 4 of 10)

Figure 13. Model 5 of 100



-99336
1 2 108.
1 3 25.
- .1232E-4
- .3038E-5

f.
Figure 11. (Sheet 6 of 10)



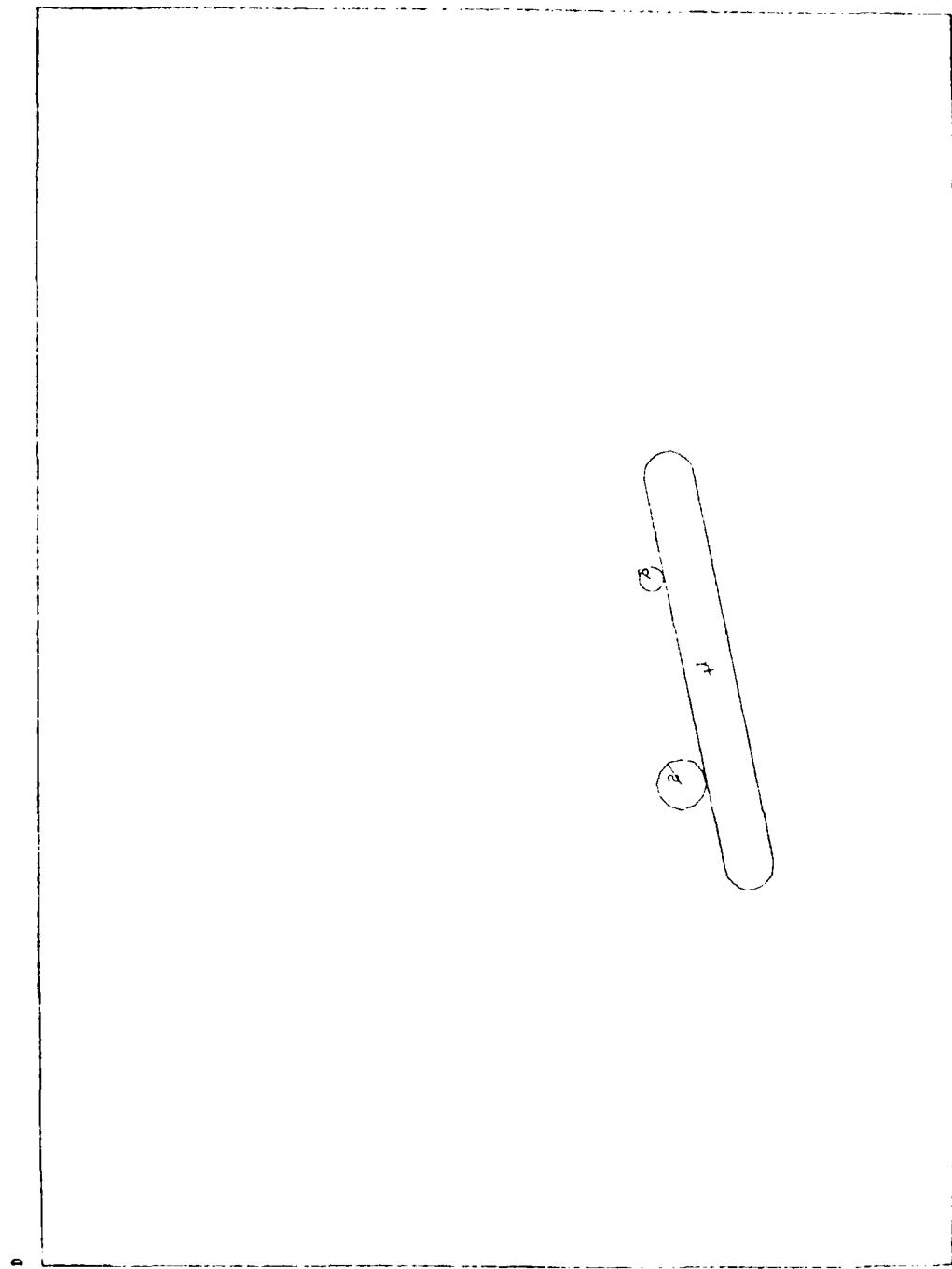
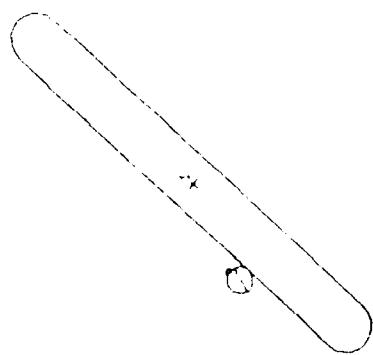


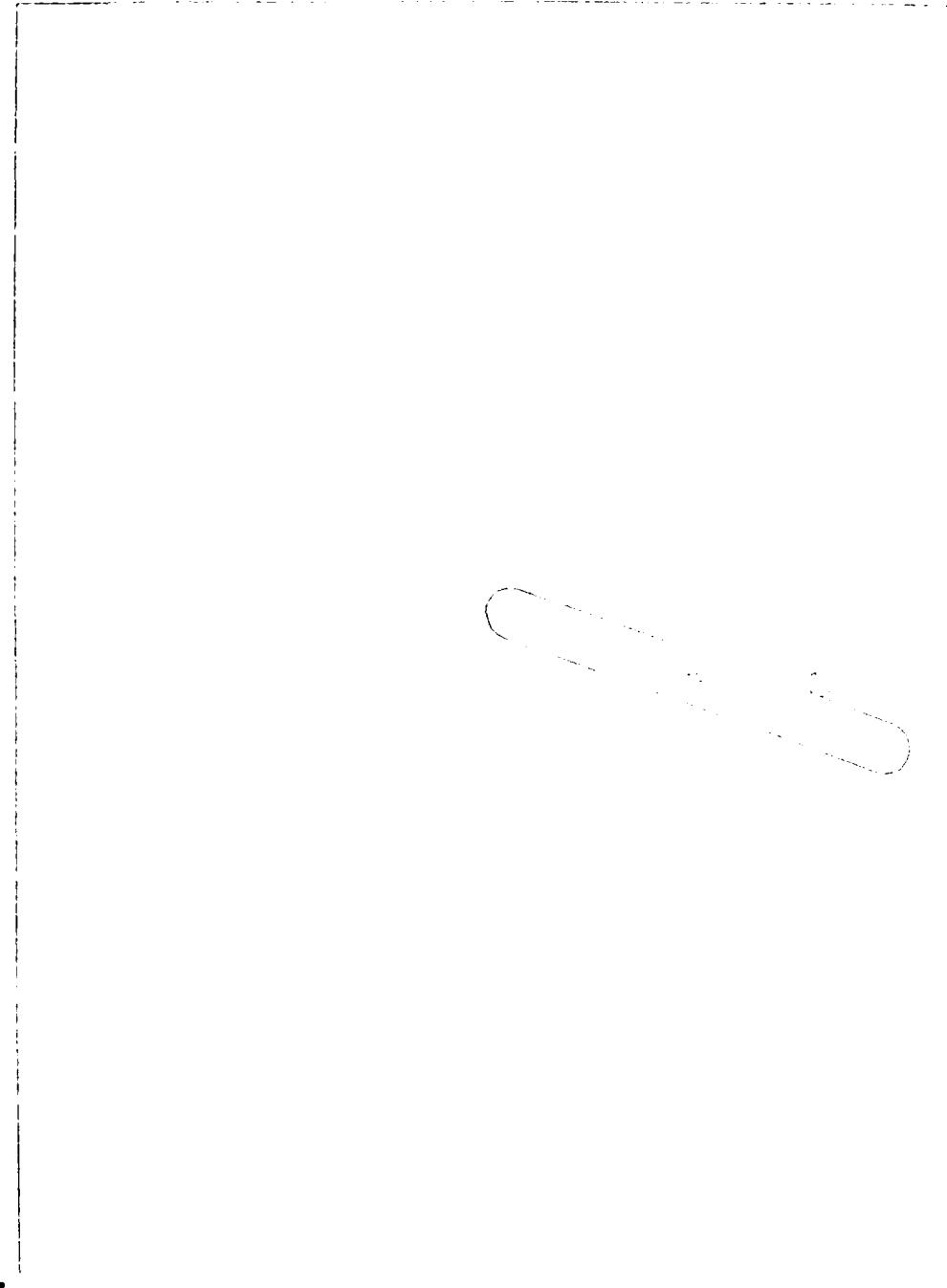
Figure 11. Object 3 (3.10)

FIGURE 11. (See text for caption)

12







- a. The bar element was created by positioning the crosshair cursor at the left end of desired location of that element, and the key "1" was struck. The crosshair cursor reappeared. With the thumbwheel, the crosshair cursor was moved to the right end of the bar element, and the key "2" was struck. The bar element was then drawn.
- b. The larger disc element was then created by positioning the crosshair cursor at desired location, and the "spacer" was struck. A disc with a radius of .79 sixteen units (the default value) was then drawn at the location shown in Figure 11a.
- c. The smaller disc element was created by first hitting the "3" key and entering the parameter "10," which signals the computer to create any further elements with a radius of .079 sixteen units (see Figure 11c). The crosshair cursor was placed at the location of the center of the small disc and the "bar" struck.

88. After creating the desired elements, it is possible to enter the compute phase of the program by striking the "4" key. Immediately, the message "COMPUTE 400.00" appears on the screen (Figure 11d). At this point, the command "4" was given and the elements were defined and numbered. Following this, as the two elements define a state restrained from all movement except for the crosshair cursor at the center of element 4 and striking the key "4,"

89. striking the "5" key cause the program to move a total of 200 time steps or portions. As elements move, their positions are drawn on the screen. The leftmost, vertical bar is "blue" because that is, once something is drawn on the screen, it is retained until the entire screen is caused to be erased. Figure 11e shows the later state positions of the two discs and the tall bar, provided by the "4" key for element 4.

90. After creating the program (key "2") or "bar" each key will return position of the last drawn element to its original position. The "4" key is shown in Figure 11f. In a quick sequence, the state of the system is changed. If one wishes to keep the last drawn element in position, the user should press the key "4" and press the "4" key again to return the element to its original position. The process can be repeated for the other elements.

this time on, it is not possible to cause the small disc element 3 to separate from the bar element. The forces (in both normal and shear directions) are outputted to the upper right corner of the screen by the command "0" followed by "H." Thus, for the contact between elements 1 and 2, the normal force is 100.0 and the shear force very small (-0.1234×10^{-4}). The normal force between elements 1 and 3 is 25.0, and the shear force is -0.308×10^{-5} . Recalling that the weight of the "standard" disc (radius = 20 screen units) is 100.0, the computed forces are correct. (Element 3 has a radius of 10 screen units and would weigh only one-fourth the amount of the "standard" disc.)

91. At this point, the bar element is released from its fixity in all directions through the command "U" (with the crosshairs centered on the bar element). This command is followed by restraining the bar element from movement in both the horizontal and vertical directions by striking "X" followed by "Y" (again with the crosshair cursor on element 1). The bar element is now prevented from translating but is free to rotate about its center of gravity. To again begin calculations of motion, the "G" key is struck. Since the large disc 2 exerts a counterclockwise moment on the bar, the system begins to rotate as shown in Figure 11e.

92. Repeated "G" commands lead to the situation shown in Figure 11f and Figure 11g. The bar continues to rotate, and the disc elements roll down the plane. The lines joining the disc element centers to the periphery of the discs indicate the amount of rotation experienced by the discs (Figure 11g). At a later time (Figure 11h), the larger disc 2 has completely rolled off the bar element and will soon disappear from the bottom of the screen.

93. Recalling that, at an earlier time, it was specified that disc 3 should have a large tensile contact "strength," it should be expected that element 3 could not roll off the bar. Figure 11i indicates exactly that situation. Disc 3 rolls around to the underside of the bar element. Figure 11j is a retreived plot of the final element positions occurring before calculations were terminated.

94. As a second simple example, consider the results given in Figure 12. In this example, three problems are being solved simultaneously. As soon as the input phase is entered, the key "4" is struck and causes a grid to be drawn on the screen. The grid is helpful to orient the three long bar elements at a 45-deg angle (Figure 12a). After inputting the three bar elements and the two discs, the compute phase is called and the elements are numbered (Figure 12b). All of the lower bar elements are then fixed by typing "F" in sequence for those elements. Then, element 4 is restrained from rotating by placing the crosshair cursor at its center and striking "t." After typing "G," the upper elements fall and proceed to slide down (element 2 rolls down) the long bar elements (Figure 12c). The default value for coefficient of friction is 0.5; thus the shear forces should never exceed one half of the normal forces. Figure 12c gives the normal and shear forces at all contacts. In every instance, the shear force is one half of the normal force. Notice that there are two 5-6 contacts, the first one being a larger value than the second. This is predictable since most of the weight should be felt by the lower contact.

95. The third example is illustrated in Figure 13. The first figure of this series shows a situation in which disc elements 6 and 7 are surrounded by a boundary of fixed bar elements. There is, however, an opening between elements 2 and 3. After describing the locations of the elements in the input phase, the compute phase is entered. Elements 1 through 5 are immediately fixed through the use of the "F" key. Following that step (Figure 13a), the weights of all elements are set to zero by the use of the "W" key (the masses remain unchanged). Next, the damping constant is reduced to zero by using the "D" sequence. Next, the coefficient of friction is set to zero (using the "M" key) so that the angles of reflection will equal the angles of incidence in whatever motions ensue. Through the use of the "V" key, the initial velocity of element 6 is set to $v_x = +100$ screen units per second, $v_y = +100$, and the angular velocity is set to zero. For element 7, the "V" key was used to set $v_x = -100$ units per second and $v_y = -100$ units. Figure 13b

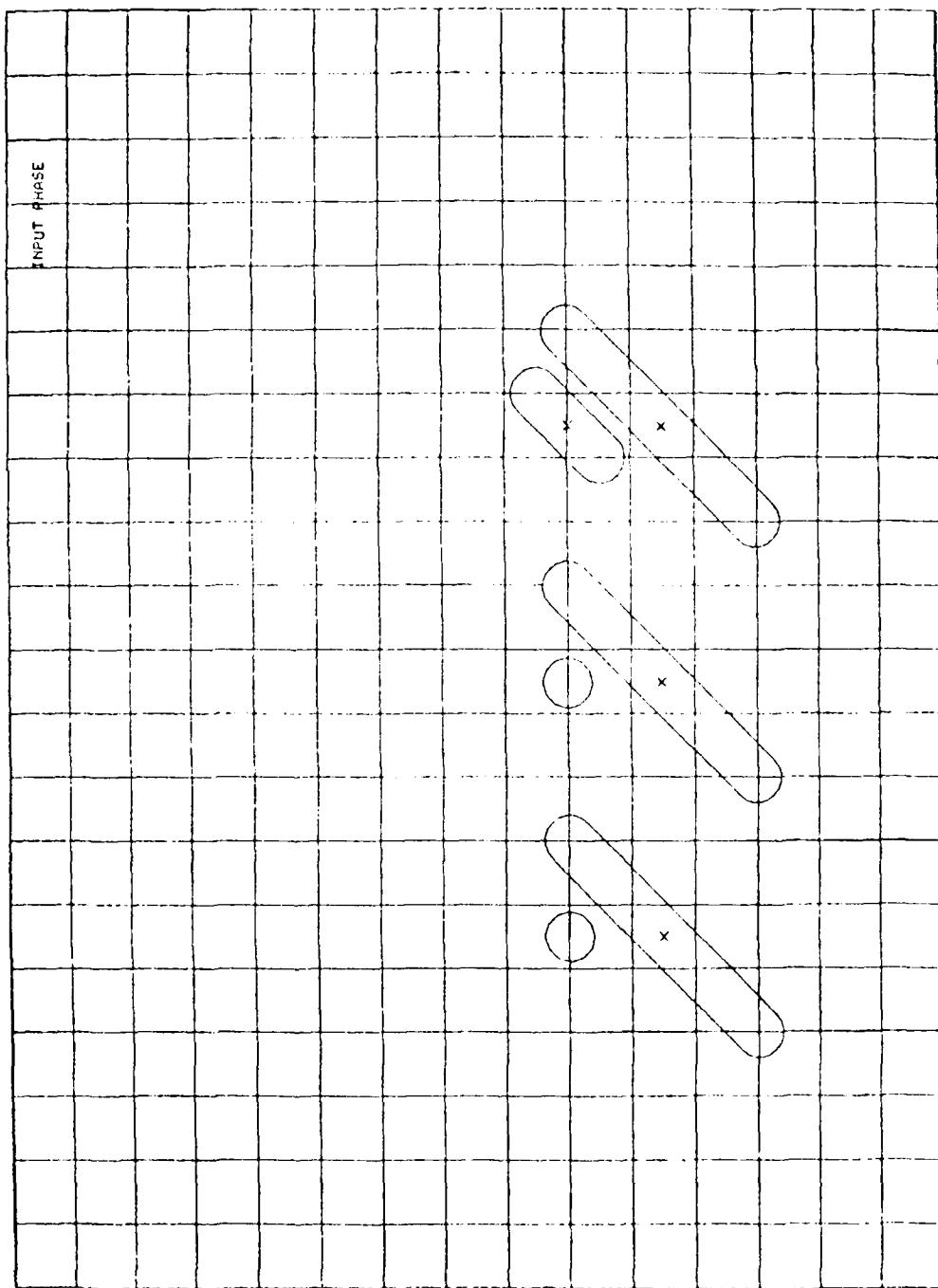
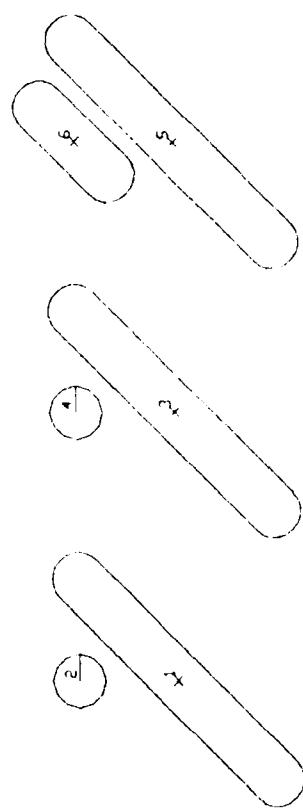


FIGURE 11. Example of Object 1 of 1.

Figure 12. Effect of λ



1	2	76.95	-35.47
3	4	76.71	-35.36
5	6	96.71	-49.36
5	6	54.39	-27.19

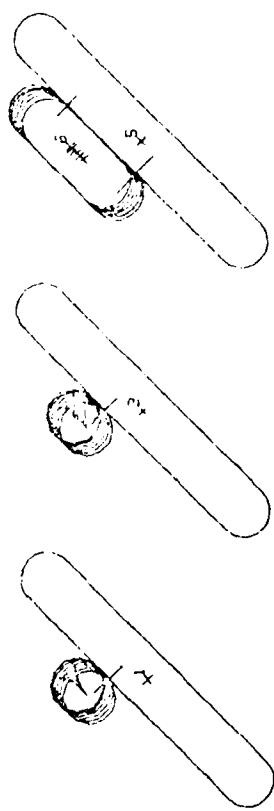
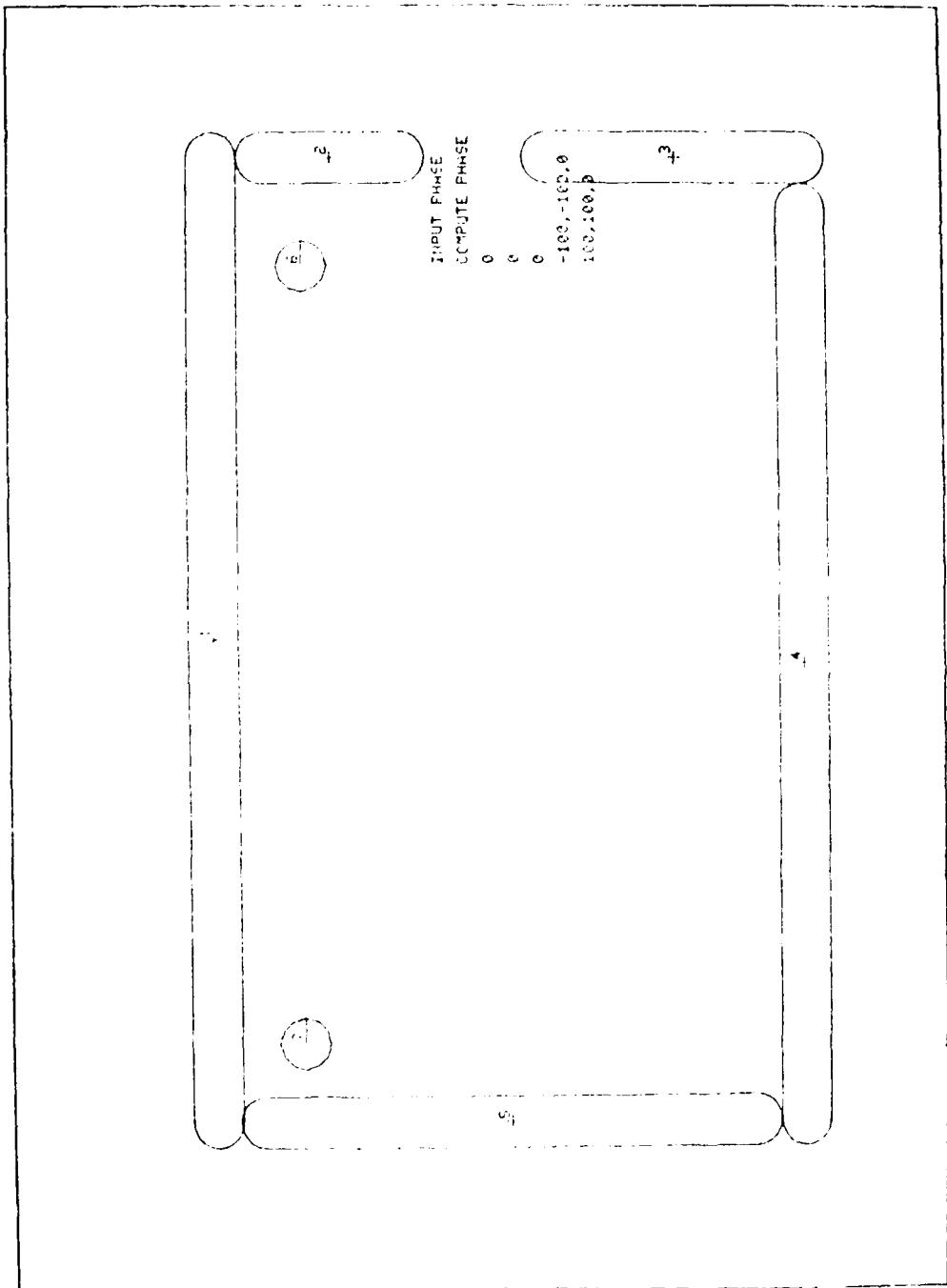
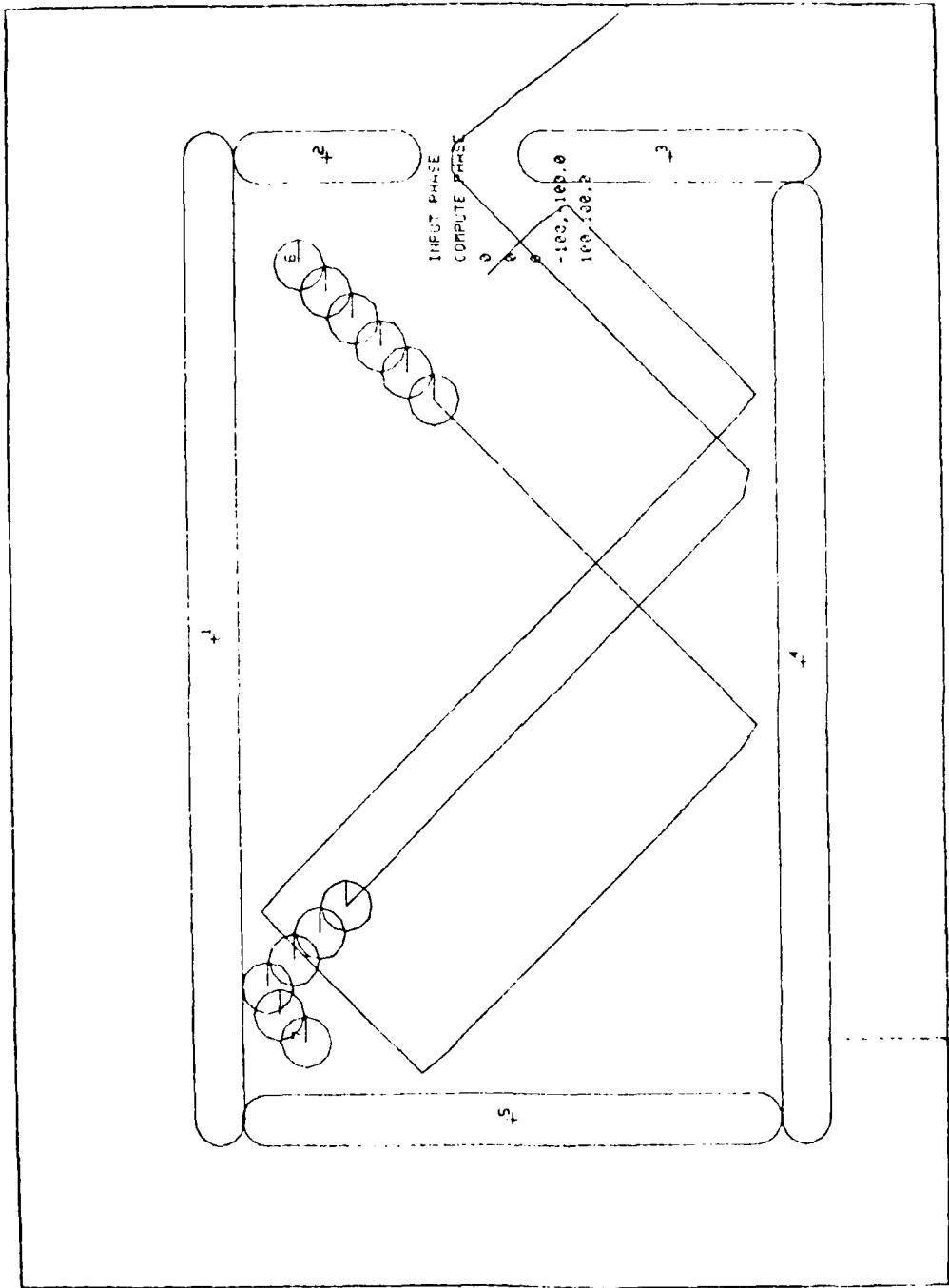


Figure 12. (Select 3 of 3)



100, 100, 0 (S1) 100, 100, 0 (S2)



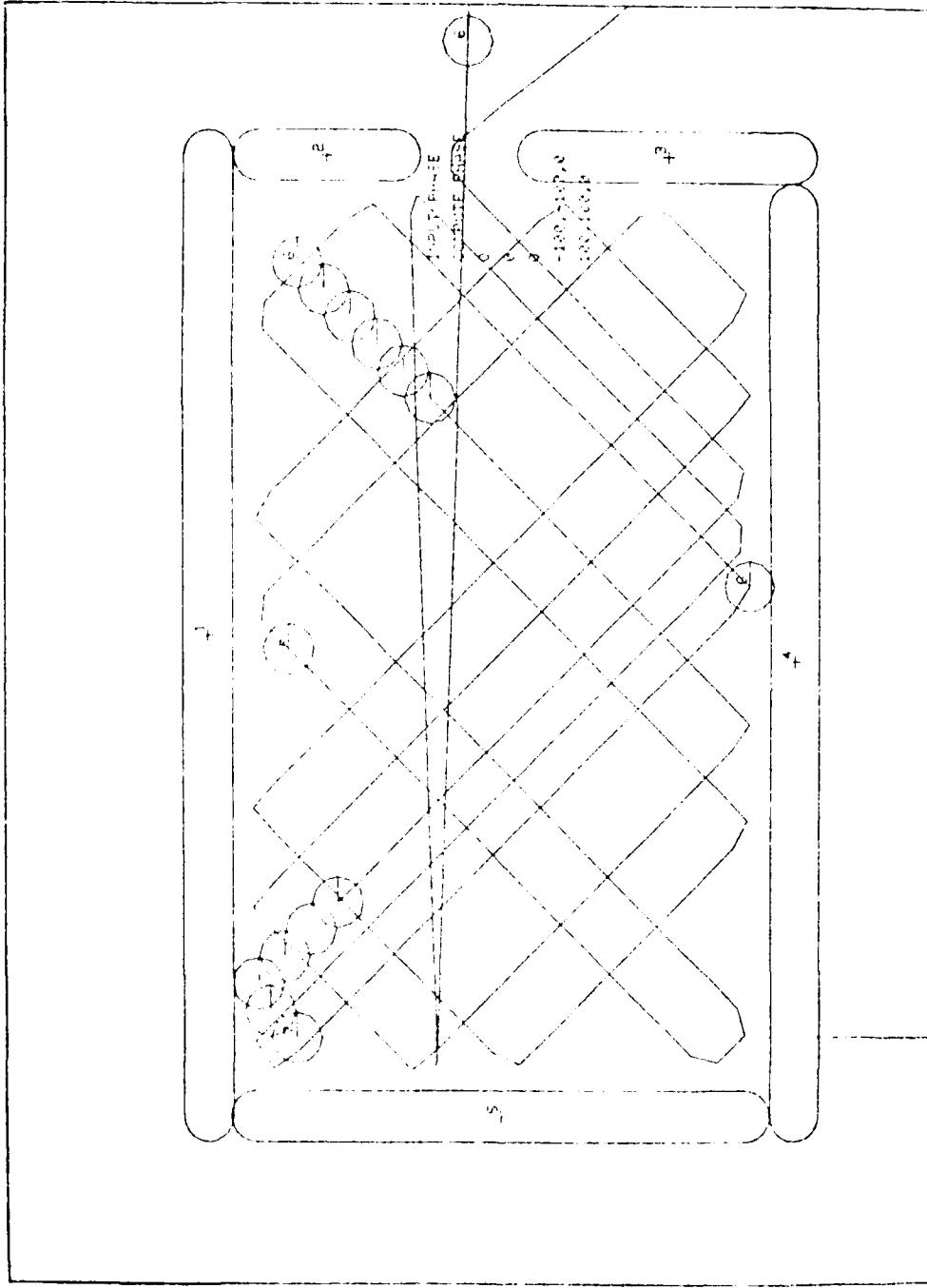


FIGURE 1. Object 1 of 3.

shows the resulting motions after striking key "G." Notice that disc 6 proceeds downward to the left. Disc 7 starts upward to the right, strikes the upper boundary, and turns downward to the right. Following the first calculation cycle of 250 time steps, output is converted to the "vector" mode by hitting key "*." When in the vector mode, the elements are no longer drawn. The output now consists only of the movement of the element centers. Element 7 proceeds to rebound off the lower boundary, then strikes the lower end of element 2, and exits through the opening (Figure 13b). Element 6, however, does not quickly find an exit through the opening. In Figure 13c, element 6 suffers a total of 21 rebounds before hitting the rounded portion of element 2. Element 6 then is deflected in an almost horizontal direction to the left wall and shoots across and out through the opening (almost dead center).

96. The purpose of the three example problems is to demonstrate the flexibility and range of this program. Problems involving quasi-static behavior and large rapid motions are included within the same framework. Indeed, at one time, this program contained options for including "inverse square of the distance" forces so that the user could compute orbits of gravitational bodies. These options are not germane to the general fields of geotechnical engineering and, as such, are not present in this version. However, the program DISC is basically a tool that will solve many fundamental problems in rigid body mechanics.

PART V: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

97. A computer program entitled DISC has been developed for analyzing disc (and bar) shaped elements. The formulations, based upon the distinct element method, allow for large, rapid movements, or quasi-static movements. The discretized behavior of the elements are kinematically calculated by the program DISC so that individual system particles (the discs) are capable of rolling, sliding, displacing each other, etc. The distinct element method provides a contrast to common continuum analysis procedures, such as the finite element method.

98. At the beginning of this study, the writer was optimistic that this method would be directly applicable to problems encountered in geotechnical engineering. During the course of this study, many "computer runs" were made in the hope of modeling a variety of common geotechnical phenomena, such as slope stability, retaining walls, bearing capacity, and pile driving. None of these attempts were satisfactory to the extent required for reporting in this document, that is, the writer has not been able to extend the method to common geotechnical problems in a direct fashion. However, many geotechnical problems can be physically modeled by an assemblage of discs. The results of such modeling could lead to (at the present) an understanding of the details of the individual particle motion. For example, a retaining wall could be physically modeled by an assemblage of discs, as could a projectile penetration problem. The program DISC is an extremely powerful model to analyze disc-shaped objects. To this purpose, the writer knows of no other method that is nearly as accurate or flexible. For example, a paper was recently published describing a program quite similar to DISC (Cundall and Strack, 1979). In this paper, the comparison was made between a computer modeling program entitled BAM (similar to DISC) and photoelastic studies of physical discs. The comparison was excellent; however, once again, both studies were modeling discs.

99. It shall remain for others to extend the distinct element method to more meaningful situations. It is the writer's opinion that this type of analysis will eventually be adopted in many areas of engineering. The concept of analyzing discrete particles in an explicit scheme is attractive to the formulations of geotechnical problems.

Recommendations

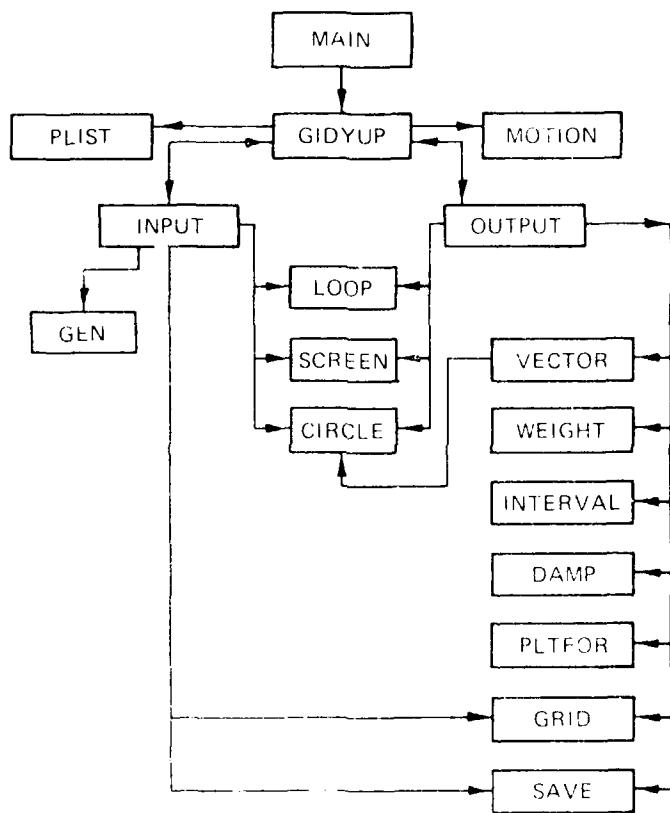
100. It must be emphasized that the computer program DISC was written to be quite general. If a subsequent user of this program has to analyze a particular problem, he should make an attempt to modify the basic, general program to his needs. For example, if the problem requires only a quasi-static analysis, many savings could be accomplished by fewer searches for near contacts. Researchers generally tend to direct new concepts to a large audience and always try to account for any possible application of their developments. A user of this research would be well advised to simply store a copy of the original program DISC within his files and then modify and enhance whichever portions of DISC that fit his applications. That is, adapt the program to the particular need.

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APPENDIX A: SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF DISC
AND FORTRAN SOURCE LISTING

SCHEMATIC FLOW OF DISC




```

2840 IF(NFIRST.NE.0) RETURN
2850 XMAX=99999999.
2860 XMIN=-99999999.
2870 XN2=1
2880 XN2=XN+1,N
2890 IF(XN2.LT.XMAX) X=NLESS-XMAX,X(1)
2900 CONTINUE
2910 SKN=SKN+1,XMAX
2920 SKN=SKN+1,XMAX
2930 SKN=SKN+1,XMAX
2940 SKN=SKN+1,XMAX
2950 IF(NLESS.GT.WMAX) WMAX=W(I)
2960 CALL LB1L(XP,IP)
2970 DO 210 I=1,N
2980 210 NMAX(I)=I
2990 NUO=N
3000 RETURN
3010 CALL USESET('REAL')
3020 CALL USESET('XP')
3030 CALL USEREAD('XP',CY,1,F1)
3040 CY=0.1
3050 INT=F1*GT(.50)-INT(.50)
3060 GO TO 16
3070 16 CALL SCREEN('XP',YR)
3080 17 CALL USESET('REAL')
3090 18 CALL USESET('REAL')
3100 19 CALL USESET('REAL')
3110 20 CALL USESET('REAL')
3120 21 CALL USESET('REAL')
3130 22 CALL USESET('REAL')
3140 23 CALL USESET('REAL')
3150 24 CALL USESET('REAL')
3160 25 CALL USESET('REAL')
3170 26 CALL USESET('REAL')
3180 27 CALL USESET('REAL')
3190 28 CALL USESET('REAL')
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3270 36 CALL USESET('REAL')
3280 37 CALL USESET('REAL')
3290 38 CALL USESET('REAL')
3300 39 CALL USESET('REAL')
3310 40 CALL USESET('REAL')
3320 41 CALL USESET('REAL')
3330 42 CALL USESET('REAL')
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3370 46 CALL USESET('REAL')
3380 47 CALL USESET('REAL')
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3790 88 CALL USESET('REAL')
3800 89 CALL USESET('REAL')
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3990 108 CALL USESET('REAL')
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4290 138 CALL USESET('REAL')
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4390 148 CALL USESET('REAL')
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4680 177 CALL USESET('REAL')
4690 178 CALL USESET('REAL')
4700 179 CALL USESET('REAL')
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4960 205 CALL USESET('REAL')
4970 206 CALL USESET('REAL')
4980 207 CALL USESET('REAL')
4990 208 CALL USESET('REAL')
4999 209 CALL USESET('REAL')

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6480 DO 100 I=1,N IF((P1-X(I))**2+(P2-Y(I))**2).GT.50. ) GO TO 100
6490 P1=X(I)
6500 P2=Y(I)
6510 PA=I
6520 K=1
6530 RETURN
6540 100 CONTINUE
6550 RETURN
6560 SUBROUTINE VECTOR(N,JP,INFIRST,MJ)
6570 PARAMETER M=5
6580 DIMENSION XL(M),YL(M),TL(M)
6590 COMMON/COOR/X(L),Y(L),T(M),R(M),S(M),U(M),XM(M)
6600 DO 39 I=1,N
6610 COMMON/PARA/IIXX(M),IY(Y(M),IUX(M),IUY(M),IEN(M))
6620 IF( INFIRST.EQ.2 ) GO TO 50
6630 IF(JP.GT.0) GO TO 25
6640 CALL UNGE(X(I),Y(I))
6650 X1=X(I)+R;
6660 Y1=Y(I)-R;
6670 X2=X(I)+R;
6680 Y2=Y(I)-R;
6690 Y2=Y(I)+R;
6700 21 CONTINUE
6710 IF(MUNE=1) GO TO 30
6720 IF(MUNE=2) GO TO 40
6730 IF(MUNE=3) GO TO 40
6740 GO TO 50
6750 25 CONTINUE
6760 IF(MUNE=1) GO TO 30
6770 IF(MUNE=2) GO TO 40
6780 IF(MUNE=3) GO TO 40
6790 IF(ABS(X(I)-X(I)).GT.1.) GO TO 40
6800 IF(ABS(Y(I)-Y(I)).GT.1.) GO TO 40
6810 GO TO 30
6820 40 CALL CIRCLE(X(I),Y(I),R(I),S(I),T(I))
6830 50 X(I)=X(I)
6840 Y(I)=Y(I)
6850 TL(I)=T(I)
6860 39 CONTINUE
6870 RETURN
6880 END
6890 SUBROUTINE SCREEN (XP,YP)
6900 DATA X/800./,Y/740./
6910 CALL LUIND(6,1000.,0.,750.)
6920 Y=.25
6930 IF(Y.GT.100.) GO TO 10
6940 Y=.740.
6950 10 CONTINUE
6960 XP=X
6970 Y=Y
6980 RETURN
6990 END
7000 SUBROUTINE GEN(N,R,X1,Y1)
7010 PARAMETER M=5
7020 COMMON/COOR/X(M),Y(M),T(M),RR(M),S(M),U(M);
7030 DIMENSION D(3)
7040 D(3)=0.0
7050 USE(T,'RENUMBER')
7060 SCREEN(X,YP)
7070 CALL UREAD(XP,YP,D,3.,FL)
7080 FL=N
7090 11 D(1)
7100 KK=ABS(D(3))+1

```

```

7769 RETURN
7770 END
7780 SUBROUTINE MOTION(NNU)
7781 PARAMETER N150=150
7782 PARAMETER M152=M24
7783 PARAMETER L152=L156
7784 COMMON NU3,NU2,NU1
7785 COMMON TIME,DT,U,F,DF
7786 COMMON JUNK,N,SKIN,DN
7787 COMMON STORE,FXSUM(1),FXSUM(2),FXSUM(3),FXSUM(4),FXSUM(5)
7788 COMMON COOR,X(1),Y(1),Z(1),R(1),S(1),U(1),V(1),W(1)
7789 COMMON VEL,O(1),UX(1),UY(1),UZ(1),VX(1),VY(1),VZ(1)
7790 COMMON INIT,XIN(1),VIN(1),WIN(1)
7791 COMMON PARA,UGTF(1),FRCF(1),TEN(1)
7792 DATA PT/3.415926/
7793 F(CNU3,EQ.0) NU-NU1
7794 KOUNT=0
7795 KOUNT=0
7796 ICYCLE=1
7797 DO 5988 ICY=1,50
7798 KOUNT=KOUNT+1
7799 IF(KOUNT.EQ.INT(ICYCLE)) KOUNT=1
8000 TIME=TIME+DT
8001 DO 90 I=1,N
8002 UF=UGTF(I)
8003 FXSUM(I)=FXSUM(I)+UF*NUF
8004 FXSUM(I)=FXSUM(I)+UF*(1-UF)*NUF
8005 SE FM(SUM(I)+FM(I))
8006 NL=1
8007 K=1
8008 T=1
8009 F(ICYCLE,NE,1)= GO TC 700
8010 NUJ=0
8011 NUO=NU
8012 NUJ=NU
8013 NUJ=NU
8014 K=1
8015 C XXXXXXXX
8016 T=0 CONTINUE
8017 F(ICYCLE,EQ,1)= GO TC 705
8018 NUJ=NU
8019 NRET=1
8020 J=ABS(A(NNU))
8021 F(ICYCLE,EQ,0)=NULLNU(J)
8022 T=0.01 NUJ=0
8023 T=0.02 NUJ=1
8024 T=0.05 NUJ=2
8025 T=0.08 NUJ=3
8026 T=0.05 CONINUE
8027 T=0.02 NUJ=0
8028 T=0.01 NUJ=1
8029 T=0.005 NUJ=2
8030 T=0.001 NUJ=3
8031 T=0.002 NUJ=4
8032 T=0.005 NUJ=5
8033 T=0.008 NUJ=6
8034 T=0.012 NUJ=7
8035 T=0.016 NUJ=8
8036 T=0.02 NUJ=9
8037 T=0.025 NUJ=10
8038 T=0.03 NUJ=11
8039 T=0.035 NUJ=12
8040 T=0.04 NUJ=13
8041 T=0.045 NUJ=14
8042 T=0.05 NUJ=15
8043 T=0.055 NUJ=16
8044 T=0.06 NUJ=17
8045 T=0.065 NUJ=18
8046 T=0.07 NUJ=19
8047 T=0.075 NUJ=20
8048 T=0.08 NUJ=21
8049 T=0.085 NUJ=22
8050 T=0.09 NUJ=23
8051 T=0.095 NUJ=24
8052 T=0.1 NUJ=25
8053 T=0.105 NUJ=26
8054 T=0.11 NUJ=27
8055 T=0.115 NUJ=28
8056 T=0.12 NUJ=29
8057 T=0.125 NUJ=30
8058 T=0.13 NUJ=31
8059 T=0.135 NUJ=32
8060 T=0.14 NUJ=33
8061 T=0.145 NUJ=34
8062 T=0.15 NUJ=35
8063 T=0.155 NUJ=36
8064 T=0.16 NUJ=37
8065 T=0.165 NUJ=38
8066 T=0.17 NUJ=39
8067 T=0.175 NUJ=40
8068 T=0.18 NUJ=41
8069 T=0.185 NUJ=42
8070 T=0.19 NUJ=43
8071 T=0.195 NUJ=44
8072 T=0.2 NUJ=45
8073 T=0.205 NUJ=46
8074 T=0.21 NUJ=47
8075 T=0.215 NUJ=48
8076 T=0.22 NUJ=49
8077 T=0.225 NUJ=50
8078 T=0.23 NUJ=51
8079 T=0.235 NUJ=52
8080 T=0.24 NUJ=53
8081 T=0.245 NUJ=54
8082 T=0.25 NUJ=55
8083 T=0.255 NUJ=56
8084 T=0.26 NUJ=57
8085 T=0.265 NUJ=58
8086 T=0.27 NUJ=59
8087 T=0.275 NUJ=60
8088 T=0.28 NUJ=61
8089 T=0.285 NUJ=62
8090 T=0.29 NUJ=63
8091 T=0.295 NUJ=64
8092 T=0.3 NUJ=65
8093 T=0.305 NUJ=66
8094 T=0.31 NUJ=67
8095 T=0.315 NUJ=68
8096 T=0.32 NUJ=69
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8638 T=3.025 NUJ=611
8639 T=3.03 NUJ=6
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11600 F=ABS((N(1+3))/F)
11601 17 CONTINUE
11602 CALL UPRIIT(XP, YP, MM(1+3))
11603 CALL UPSET('INTP-15.', YP, MM(1+2))
11604 CALL UPSET('INTGER()')
11605 CALL UPRIIT(XP-15., YP, XI)
11606 CALL UPRIIT(XP-150., YP, XI)
11607 CONTINUE
11608 CALL USE('USERAXIS')
11609 CALL UWINO(XMIN, XMAX, YMIN, YMAX)
11610 XP1=XC+COS(B)*XAS
11611 XP2=XC-COS(B)*XAS
11612 Y1=CSIN(B)*XAS
11613 YP2=YC-SIN(B)*XAS
11614 CALL UMOVE(XP1, YP1)
11615 CALL UPEN(XP2, YP2)
11616 DB=.15*2.953
11617 XP1=XC+COS(B)*XAN
11618 XP2=XC-COS(B)*XAN
11619 YP1=YC+SIN(B)*XAN
11620 YP2=YC-SIN(B)*XAN
11621 CALL UMOVE(XP1, YP1)
11622 CALL UPEN(XP2, YP2)
11623 GO TO 1+25
11624 GO TO 2
11625 END
11626 SUBROUTINE SAVEN(J)
11627 PARAMETER N=50
11628 PARAMETER MM=500
11629 PARAMETER MM4=M
11630 COMMON /CORR/X(MY(M)),TCN(R(M)),S(M),UC(M),VN(M)
11631 COMMON /PARA/IF(X(M)),GTF(M),FRC(M),EN(M)
11632 DIMENSION DAT(MM),DAT(MM),DAT(MM)
11633 IF(J.EQ.1) GO TO 16
11634 DO 5 I=1,MM
11635 5 X(I)=DATA(I)
11636 DO 6 I=1,MM
11637 6 IF(X(I).EQ.DAT(I))
11638 N=NN+1
11639 RETURN
11640 DO 20 I=1,MM
11641 20 DATA(I)=X(I)
11642 DO 25 I=1,MM
11643 25 DATA(I)=IFIX(I)
11644 NN=N
11645 RETURN
11646 END
11647 SUBROUTINE GRID(XMIN, XMAX, YMIN, YMAX)
11648 CALL USE('USERAXIS')
11649 CALL UMOVE(X-1000., Y)
11650 19 CALL UMOVE(-1000., Y)
11651 CALL UPEN(X 1000., Y)
11652 X=X/50
11653 IF(X.GT.1000.) GO TO 30
11654 GO TO 26
11655 30 Y=-1000.
11656 18 CALL UMOVE(-1000., Y)
11657 CALL UPEN(1000., Y)
11658 Y=Y/50
11659 IF(Y.GT.1000.) RETURN
11660 GO TO 40
11661 END
11662 SUBROUTINE JPAUSE
11663 CALL UWAIT(3.)

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In accordance with letter from DAEN-RDC, DAEN-ASI dated 22 July 1977, Subject: Facsimile Catalog Cards for Laboratory Technical Publications, a facsimile catalog card in Library of Congress MARC format is reproduced below.

REFERENCES AND NOTES

Major General George S. Patton, who was responsible for the development of the U.S. armored forces, had been the U.S. Army Inspector General. Experiment Station, an independent agency of the Army Cavalry, reported to the Secretary of War, Washington, D. C., under the Inspector General. The station was located at Vicksburg, Mississippi. U.S. Army Inspector General. Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Miss., November, 1918.

"I, and my wife, John, are (MILITARY PERSONNEL) in the Army National Guard, assigned to Station # 11-1-1.

REFERENCES

THE ENGLISH TOWER.

1. *Chlorophytum comosum* L. var. *luteum* (L.) Kuntze

1. Computer model, 2. Numerical experiments, 3. Experimental development). The numerical experiments were made with two experimental situations, a technical one and a more complex one, which was related to the problem of the influence of the flow on the airways. Experimental details are given in

